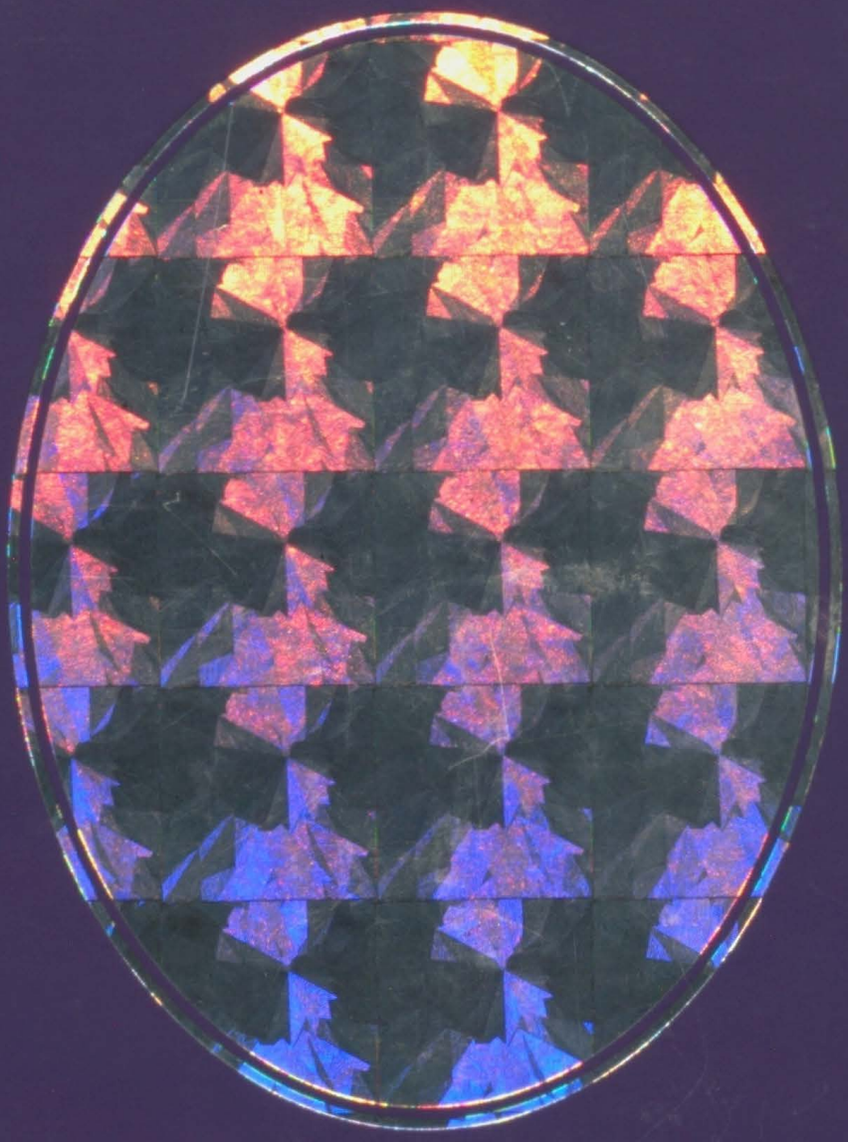
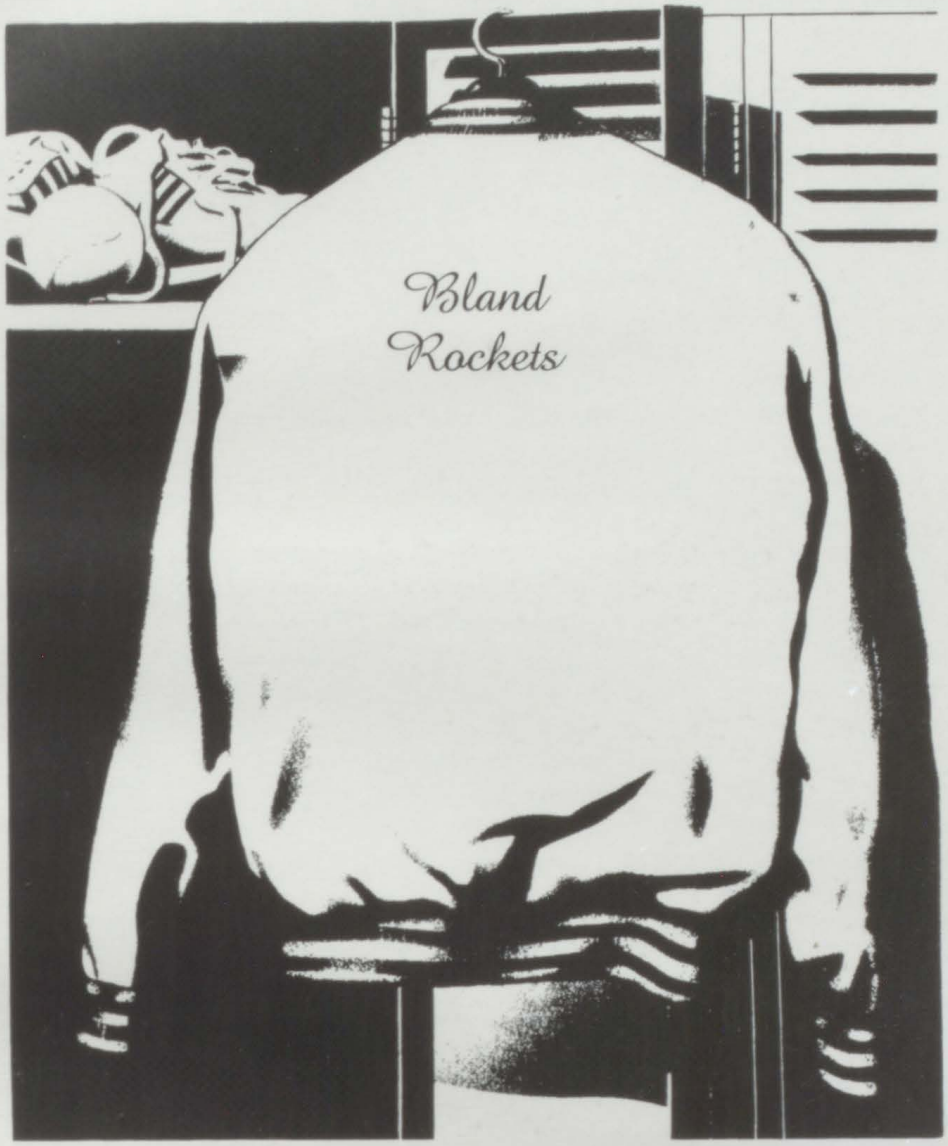
THE ECHO



ENDLESS JOURNEY

1996

Endless Journey
The Echo 1996



Bland High School
Rt. 1 Box 14
Bland, VA 24315
(540) 688 - 3621

Bland Elementary School
P.O. Box 569
Bland, VA 24315
(540) 688 - 3032

The Endless Journey Continues . . .

Student Life during 1995 - 96 was an odyssey that came with a guarantee to be anything but boring. As with each school year, faculty and students alike were eager to begin the year and discover what changes had occured during summer vacation. Some changes were welcomed with minimum anxiety while others proved more stressful. A new grade recording system was implemented at the beginning of the school year. Selected school personnel and one work-study student diligently worked throughout the summer to prepare for the beginning of the year. The end of the first six weeks found that the hard work had paid off. Report cards as well as grade sheets were filed into past archives and new computerized print-outs of grades were placed in student grade envelopes. Teachers learned how to record student grades into the computers by class and section numbers. Parents were able to see both numerical grades and comments made by individual teachers. Teachers were set to task to ensure that grades entered into the computers were accurately recorded and saved. Each month saw a teacher inservice/or workday to more fully prepare for the new computerized systems that were to be used during the school year.

The Bland High School Library also saw a make-over. The process of checking out a book became computerized. Mrs. Elizabeth Newberry held classes for all students and teachers to introduce them to the new technological equipment that would be used during the year. With six new IBM compatible computers packed with software, students were successful in connecting to VA PEN, using UltraVision for yearbook, researching , using encyclopedia references, card cataloging, and book circulation.

Mr. John Chmara and Ms. Jerri Harman joined the secondary faculty and the elementary welcomed Mrs. Debbie Maxfield, Miss Pam Chewning, and Mrs. Lisa Harman. Bland High School's enrollment was 220 at the end of the first semester and Bland Elementary School's enrollment was 309.

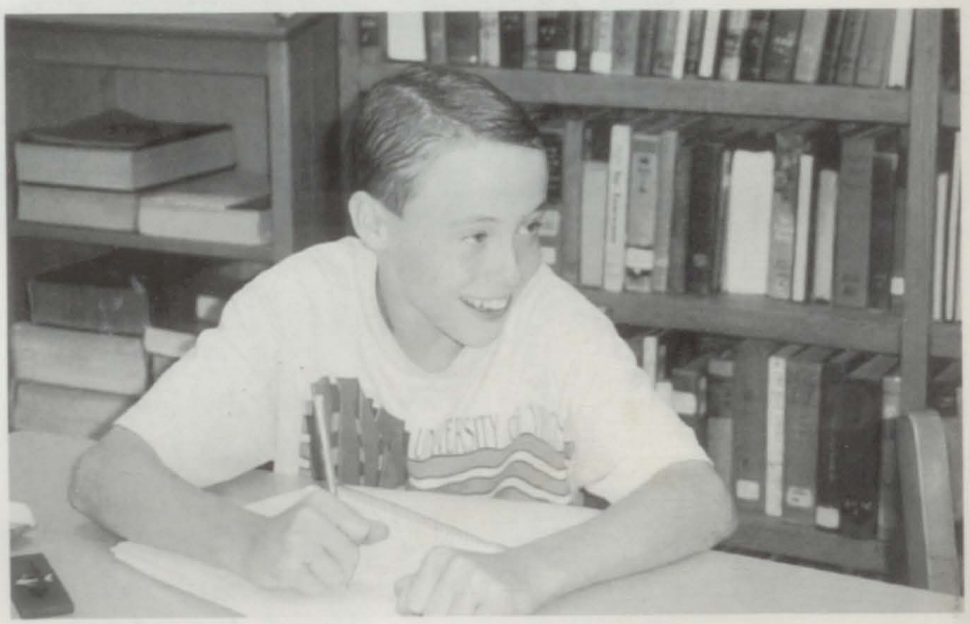
As the year progressed, forty-four seniors were eager to pass through the first portal of their educational odyssey. With volume 51 of the Echo, we hope that this book has provided a history and a log of that odyssey. The yearbook staff consisted of four Seniors, one Junior, and three Sophomores. After brainstorming, this staff selected "Endless Journey" as their theme. This theme symbolizes our odyssey and our sincere hope that our educational journeys will truly and always be endless.

BELOW: Leisa Hagy helps with Sophomore concession during a home basketball game.



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AVOVE: Adam Faulkner appears to be happy about studying while in the library.

into the 90's at Bland Schools

BELOW: Miss Echo Candidates for 1995-96. Susan Stanley, Ashley Sarver, Kelly Dunn, Marie Dotson, Hanne Evensen.





ABOVE: Sara King, Kelli King, Stacey Miller, Whitney Gamble, Brooke Kitts, Leslie Carroll, Kelly Dunn.



ABOVE: Ms. Jerri Harman prior to Latin Class.

Elementary Faculty Retirements

Bland Elementary School experienced two retirements during 95-96. Mrs. June Miller retired as a 1st grade teacher after having taught school for thirty-four and one-half years. Mrs. Miller moved to Bland in 1968 with her husband, the late Rev. Earl Miller, who pastored the Presbyterian church in Bland County. In addition to twenty-seven and one-half years with the Bland County School System, Mrs. Miller taught 3 years in North Carolina, 1 year in Richlands, and 3 years in Max Meadows. She also pastored eleven years as a commissioned Lay Preacher of the Presbyterian Church. Mrs. Miller has a variety of educational experiences to her credit. She has served as a high school physics teacher, and an Eighth Grade Science instructor. While in Bland, Mrs. Miller taught 5th, 3rd, and a 2nd - 3rd grade combination.

Mrs. Helen Blankenship also left the Elementary Faculty after having worked as a Teacher's Aide for eighteen and one-half years. Mrs. Blankenship worked as an aide with the Multiple Handicapped Program. She worked as both a transportational aide and an instructional aide. She transported the handicapped children for twelve years. She also worked as a Chapter I and Remedial reading aide.

BELOW: Mrs. Helen Blankenship, Teacher's Aide.





LEFT: Mrs. Miller at retirement party.

BELOW: Mrs. June Miller, Classroom Teacher.



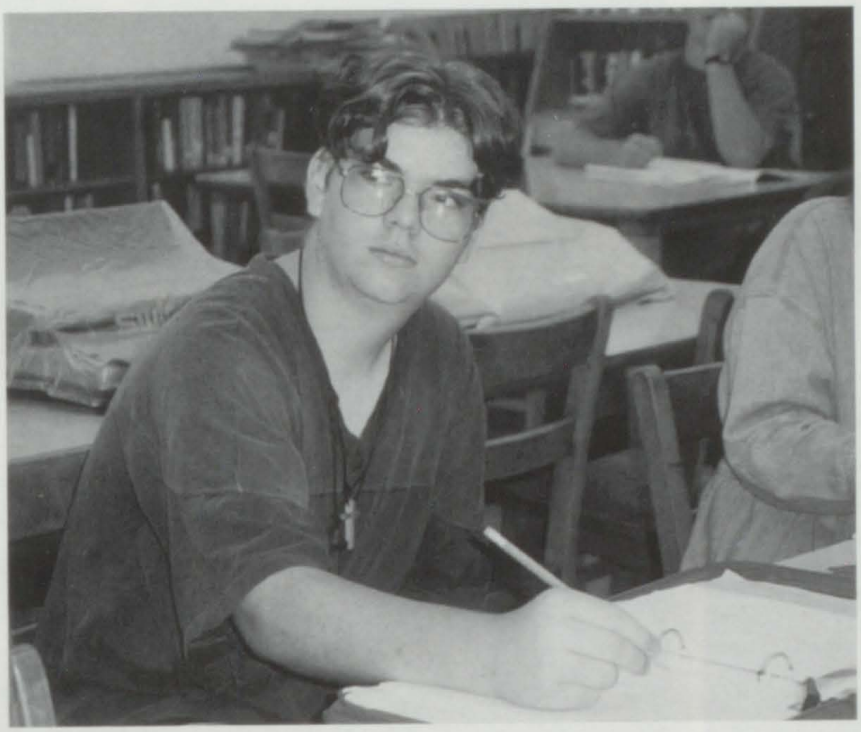
In Memory

Ms. Janet Hamilton Scott



Ms. Janet Hamilton Scott, 4th grade teacher at Bland Elementary School taught school for twenty-two and one-half years. She had taught at Lincoln Terrace Memorial School in Roanoke, Virginia, as well as Burnt Chimney. She began teaching in Bland County in 1978. She lived in the Ceres Community and was involved in her school, community and church. Ms. Scott is best remembered for emphasis placed on cultural enrichment, and instilling original thought and creativity in her students. Ms. Scott often encouraged her students as well as colleagues to expand not only their intellect but their methods of thinking. She often challenged those around her with her innovative ideas and philosophies.

Ms. Scott greatly emphasized the importance of academics, especially multiplication tables. She stressed how our heritage affected our lives in all aspects. She projected the values of life and how each person was responsible for their own personal values and morals. She will be remembered as a strong educator.



People

TOP RIGHT: Pam Gore keeps occupied with phone calls in addition to her many other duties.

CENTER LEFT: Misty Wiley takes a break from the dance floor to sample refreshments at the Prom.

CENTER RIGHT: Ryan Newberry performs the required pushups during Beta slave auction.

BOTTOM: After-Prom Party finds Jody Lambert and Michael Kay Mabe in the typical western attire. Don't pull that trigger Michael!









TOP RIGHT: Sandra Melvin, April Nelson, and Joanne Brumsley play hide-and-seek with the camera during a science field trip.

TOP LEFT: Snow Court drawing for door prizes, Brooke Kitts, Leslie Carroll, Stella Joyce, Kelly Dunn, J. B. Lambert.







K-92 visits Bland High in May, 1995.

Potpourri of activities

Looking at the potpourri of activities in which students were involved could make one dizzy. How did they manage to participate in sports, extra-curricular affairs, and still make decent grades? These young people were very resilient, needing little sleep at times, they bounced back and were ready to grasp that tiger by the tail and succeed.

Kindergarteners begin flight

Kindergarten students counted down the days until their arrival at their new learning station on August 21, 1995. Upon arrival, many eager and "first time" fliers had back packs stuffed with the equipment needed to master their first year at school. These young travelers had a busy and long first day, but soon settled into the routine of each school day. They learned many rules, met new and interesting people, and shared experiences with friends and family.

Kindergarten teachers reflected their enthusiasm onto each and every child. Loaded with years of experience and expertise, Mrs. Iris Pruett and Mrs. Becky Scott provided the instruction, skills, and loving care needed to make each school day a successful event for these youngsters.



Kindergarteners know the answers!



Dallas Rhett Agee



Courtney R. Callahan



Megan Elaine Davis



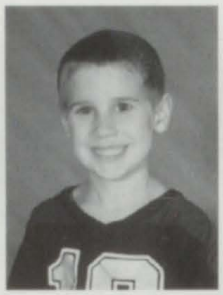
Jessica D. Dillow



Calvin Duncan



Cody Farlow



Timothy Jesse Gill



Farah Ann Hopkins



Mathew S. Hounsehll



Erica Jones



Ethan Jones



Meagan Elise Massie



Anna Marie Mitchell



Jessica K. Michael



Nicholas Schoenthal



Mitch Simmons



Casey Tate



Alden Tuttle



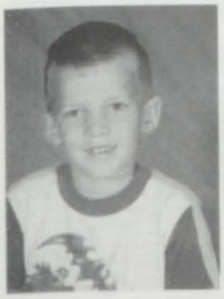
Chistopher Walls



Stephen Wolfe



Heather Wright



Brandon Neal Bailey



John Brunk, Jr.



LEFT: Debra Roope is proud of a fresh shampoo and a new hair barrette.

BELOW: Mrs. Iris Pruett's class samples stone soup which was made in an old-fashioned outdoor kettle during the Festival of Leaves.



Jessica Leah Coburn



Joshua Ross Coffman





Sarah Nicole Collins



Harley Lee Davis



Geneva Earls



Tyler Eastep



Bobby Joe Gibson III



Samantha Gail Gray



Coleman S. Hamilton



Erik D. Hetherington



C. W. Hounshell



Adrianna G. Hutchins



Cari Danielle Neal



John Ethan Reed



Debra Roope



Jerry Allen Woodie

First grade begins trek

Small images appeared on the scene the first day of school at Bland Elementary. Ready to embark upon a new adventure, 17 newly enlisted time travelers in Mrs. June Miller's first grade class fastened their seat belts and prepared themselves for a year full of academic travels. Mrs. Miller, a veteran teacher for many years with the Bland County School System, was fully prepared to assist these students with the learning skills they would need to build a firm foundation for their future years. Mrs. Gwen Vicars enrolled 16 of these small "trekkers" into her learning ship. Mrs. Vicars dedicated many hours making preparations for her first graders for the coming school year. With her classroom loaded with many stimulating designs and activities, Mrs. Vicars knew that the year would undoubtedly be loaded with both fun and learning for each student. Both grades had backpacks loaded with needed supplies for their trek into the academic unknown. With all last minute preparations final, the countdown began and Bland's first graders blasted off into a new year.



TOP RIGHT: Erin Stiltner and Brandy Walker approach Mrs. June Miller with ice cream money.



Samantha Arney



Joey Cole



Adrianne Cox



Ashley Davis



Glen Ray Davis, Jr.



Joshua Dillow



Samantha Foglesong



John Goss



Kimberly Harman



Sondra Harman



Zeke Harman



Chelsea Havens



Erin Stiltner



Kendell Stuart



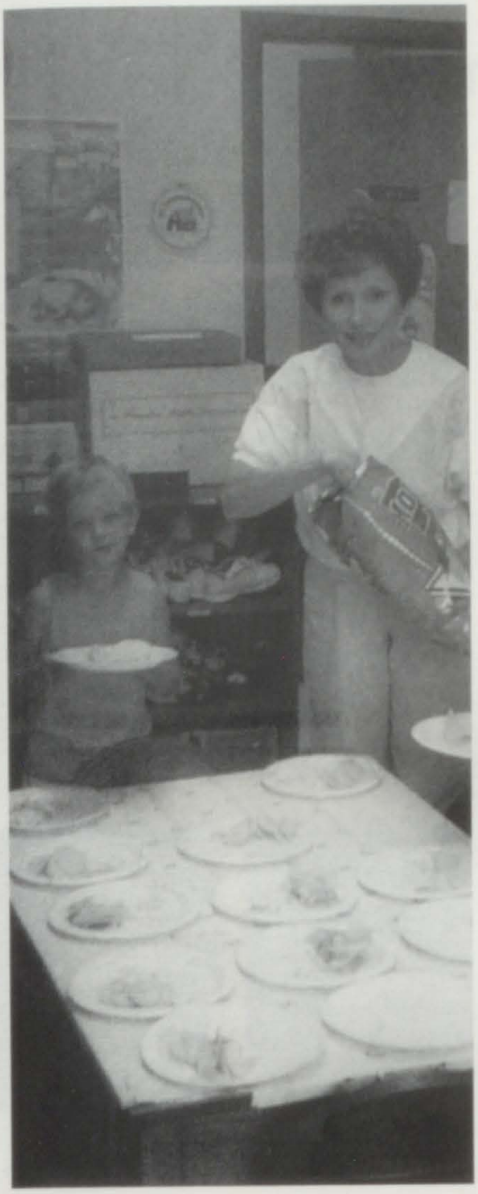
Damion Tolbert



Brandi Walker



Staci Walker



Mrs. Gwen Vicars is hostess at Jaron Crider's birthday party.

Mrs. Gwen Vicars' class celebrates birthday.





Katie Bailey



Brandy Jo Cassell



Randa Collins



Jaron Crider



Adam Hutchins



Jessica Joyce



Shane Kincaid



Billy Kistler



Amy McPeak



Jock Mutter



Laura Peery



Eli Preston Quigg



Heather Rhodes



Justin Webb



Jamie White

Mrs. Laura Radford's second graders made leaf booklets (bottom of picture) and colorful characters for their Festival of Leaves exhibit.



Touring second grade was a busy year

Moving from sixth grade position Mrs. Laura Radford found the challenges and daily tasks of second grade in her favor. Beginning in the fall with a study of leaves, her students made leaf booklets to coincide with the Festival of Leaves celebration. During the winter months they migrated and explored the world of dinosaurs. For the spring period they studied units on space and the ocean. With each of their studies they performed various art and craft projects to enhance their learning skills.

This was an exciting year for Mrs. Barton's busy second graders. They made colorful butterflies for the Festival of Leaves, and used chenille bumps (pipe cleaners) to make bright orange pumpkins in October. Every week they read with fifth grade Reading Buddies, and wrote letters to pen pals from Bluefield, WV, every month. They had a "Children of the World" day where they gave reports about children in other countries, dressed up in international costumes, and tasted different kinds of foods from each country.



Tiffany Casey



Brenna Collins



Ashley Cox



Tiffeny R. Davidson



Jessica Ellen Davis



Teresa Marie Duncan



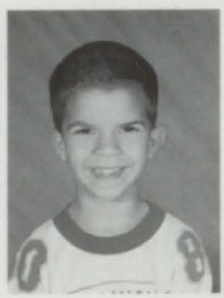
Robert W. Faulkner



Kyle A. Foglesong



Amanda Henderson



Jason Michael Henson



Joshua Evan May



Justin Aaron May



Hunter Romano



Joshua A. Shelton



Aimee Tate



James Paul Thompson



William C. Vanover



Chelsea L. Wright



LEFT: Becky Simmons carefully places the chenille bumps on her styrofoam ball to form a pumpkin for fall crafts.

BELOW: Mrs. Ruth Barton demonstrates the correct placement of the "orange bumps" to her students.





James Belcher



Kayla Bridges



James Brunk



Kayla Clemons



Brandon Faulkner



Keith Foster



Kelsey Groseclose



Phillip Henson



Maxie Hopkins



Shana Jones



M. J. Mallory



Trey Morehead



Ashley Neel



Bobby Riggins



Becky Simmons



Joseph Stowers



Nathan Tickle



William Turner



Shane Umbarger



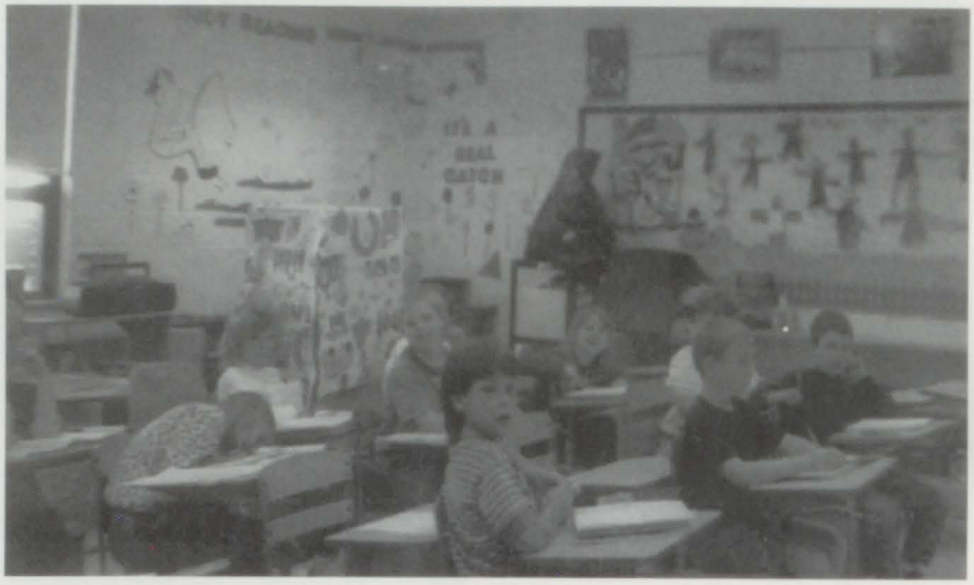
Tonya Wright

TOP RIGHT: Cooking Thanksgiving dinner.

TOP LEFT: Lana Hall's third grade shows personality.

BOTTOM: Third graders take the form of cats, firemen, princesses and nurses on Halloween.







Adam Baker



Bobby Baker



Kasey Crider



Ashley Dillow



Jenna Dunn



James Joyce



Daniel King



Krystal McGuire



Derek Parker



Joshua Pauley



Nicholas Pauley



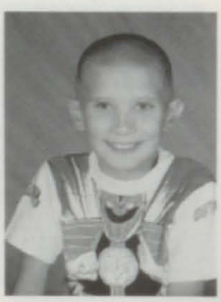
Jock Songer



Jerimiah Thompson



Ashley Tickle



Billy Umbarger



Angela Walker



Levi Watts



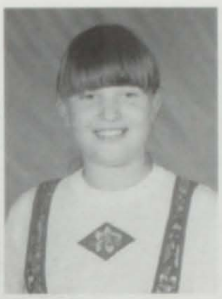
Fun in learning



The third graders may have been divided into two classes, but they stood together in learning. The youths presented plays and wrote stories as their reading skills improved. One class hatched baby chicks for a science evaluation while another class learned Indian songs and dances. Multiplication and cursive writing strengthened their third-grade skills and enhanced their learning. They experienced the fun journey of learning as they strolled through the halls as third graders. The group was divided into Mrs. Sue Dunford's and Mrs. Lana Hall's classes. The voyage of learning had been an enjoyable excursion.



TOP: Ashley Dillow during the October Pageants.
LEFT: Third graders dressed for Thanksgiving, gather to prepare their dinner in the home ec. kitchen.



Brittany Allen



Kayla Anders



Gabrielle Dean



Justin Dunn



C. B. Emerson



Rebecca Goss



Jerrod Miller



Amanda Millirons



Zachary Neal



Lindsey Newberry



Lesley Repass



Carmella Thompson



Paul Thompson



Derek Tibbs



Seth Turski



Jared Umbarger



Adrienne Woodie

Fourth grade soars

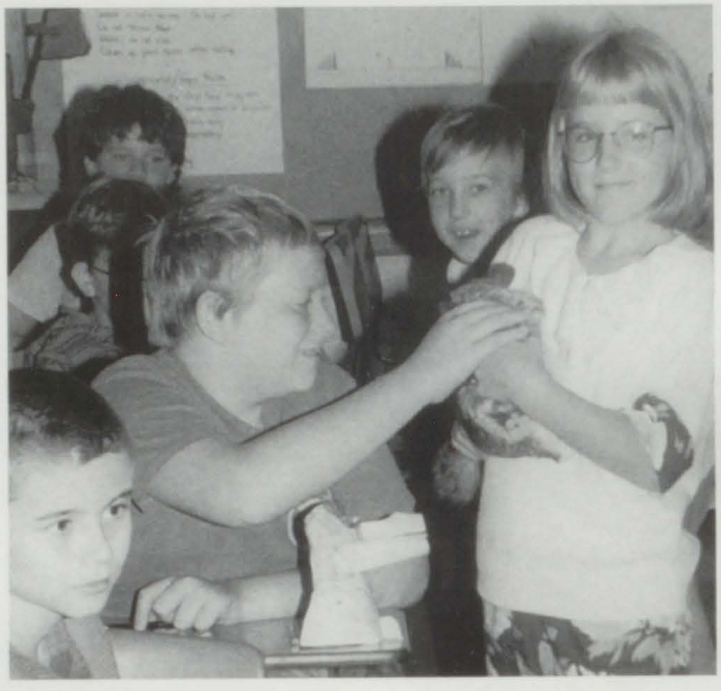
Mrs. Jan Scott's Fourth Grade Class soared to new heights in academics. These strong willed youngsters used school year 95-96 to concentrate on strengthening academic skills. A major focus was science demonstrations wherein a scientific principle had to be proven. These students organized their own free time football as a creative project. Mrs. Barbara Justice's class focus was the Literacy Passport Test. These fourth graders spent time in preparation for passing this important test.



Lee Bailey



Angela Blankenship



Erica Pauley smugly holds a rabbit for Robbie Wolfe to pet.



Shaun Carroll



Jerrica Crabtree



Kimberly Crusenberr



Chris Dillow



Autumn Haynes



Lawrence Henderson



Jeremiah Hickman



Ben Johnson



Jonathan Kidd



Andy Mutter



Erica Pauley



David Perry



Jerrod Sadler



R. J. Stanley



Alice Jinne Stone



Logan Tate



Joyce Turski



Robbie Wolfe

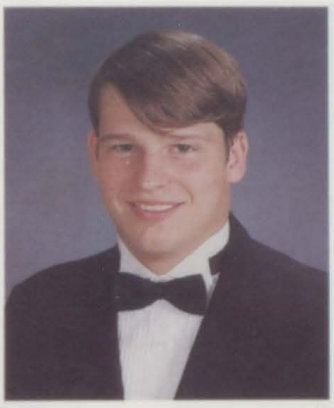
Sojourn ends with hope and dreams

Here we are at last, the Senior Class of 1996. Once we were unsure and shy. Now we are strong and determined. On the final leg of our thirteen year sojourn we gained four new members: Hanne Evensen (4-H exchange from Norway), Dana Jessee, Erin Morrell,

(continued on page 32C)



Amanda Elizabeth Baldwin
Birthdate: 3-25-78
Nickname: Amy



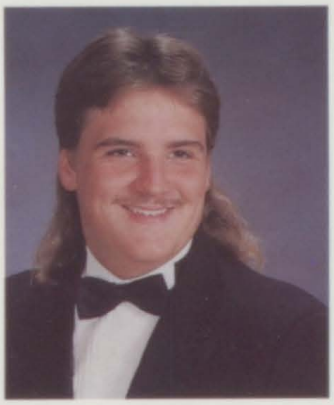
Christopher M. Beaman
Birthdate: 10-6-77
Nickname: Beaman



CLASS OFFICERS: Sam Tickle, vice-president; Lisa Owens, secretary; Melanie Talbert, president; Sheri Blankenship, treasurer; Mr. Richard Havens, adviser.



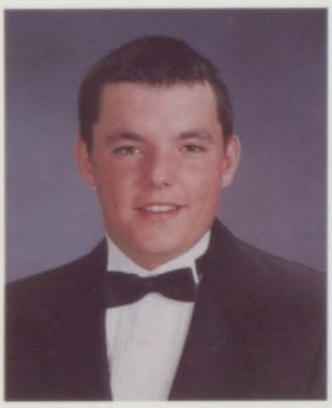
Sheri Lynn Blankenship
Birthdate: 7-1-78
Nickname: Slim



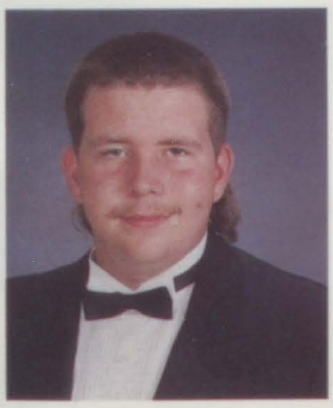
Anthony Wayne Bruce
Birthdate: 4-19-78
Nickname: Andy



Cheryl Lyn Brunk
Birthdate: 1-14-78
Nickname: Cheryl



Matthew Neal Brunk
Birthdate: 3-5-78
Nickname: Matt



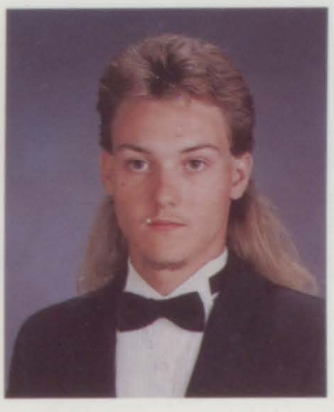
Charles Neal Corder
Birthdate: 4-30-77
Nickname: Charlie



Billie Jo Crabtree
Birthdate: 5-9-78
Nickname: Jo



William Joseph Davis
Birthdate: 1-16-77
Nickname: Billy



Robert Holbrook Dillow
Birthdate: 11-23-76
Nickname: Brook

Dana Michelle Jessee
Birthdate: 5-13-77
Nickname: Dana



RIGHT: With a background painted by Bland Correctional inmates for the After-Prom Party, Smokey Parmenter and Leslie Kelley carry out the western theme in dress and action.





Hanne Beate Evensen
Birthdate: 11-2-77
Nickname: Hanne



Anita Fay French
Birthdate: 2-15-78
Nickname: 'Neeter



Amie Sue Goss
Birthdate: 8-20-78
Nickname: Charlie 2



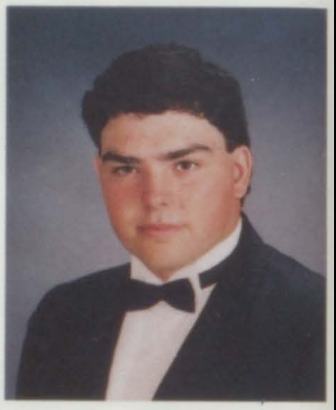
Jamie Renee' Goss
Birthdate: 8-20-78
Nickname: Gossy



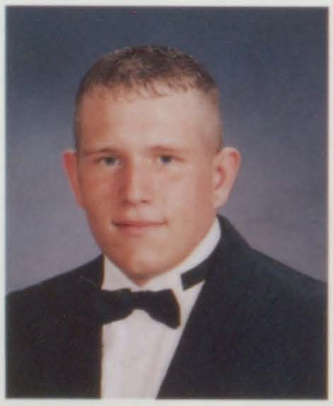
Ashley Amanda Jackson
Birthdate: 8-29-78
Nickname: Mandy



Leslie Annette Kelley
Birthdate: 3-28-78
Nickname: Les



Joseph Brian Lambert
Birthdate: 3-28-78
Nickname: Jody



John Eric Miller
Birthdate: 9-13-77
Nickname: EZ



Michael Todd Morehead
Birthdate: 6-8-77
Nickname: Todd



Erin Marie Morrell
Birthdate: 10-2-77
Nickname: Erin



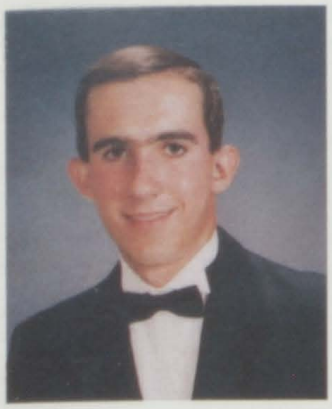
Michael Allen Muncy
Birthdate: 7-7-78
Nickname: Chuck



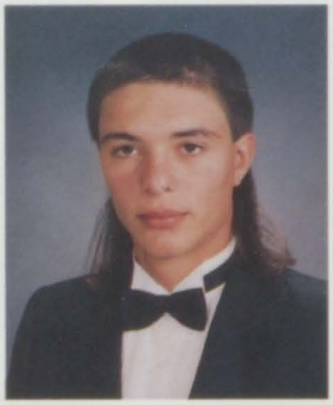
(continued from page 32A)

and Kelly Tickle; and lost three: Amanda Baldwin, Billy Davis, and Jamy Nunn. Our future holds promise and hope while our past held the stepping stones to where we are today. What are we now, but young dreamers wanting to have our chance as we begin another segment of our life's journey.

LEFT: Lisa Owens and Melanie Talbert watch their classmates across the hall while Melanie snacks for breakfast.



Michael Robert Munsey
Birthdate: 3-22-78
Nickname: Mike



Joseph Allen Neel
Birthdate: 2-3-77
Nickname: Reco



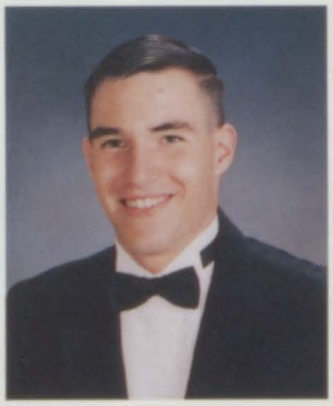
Jaime Koren Newby
Birthdate: 1-6-78
Nickname: James



James Paul Nunn
Birthdate: 10-5-78
Nickname: Jamy



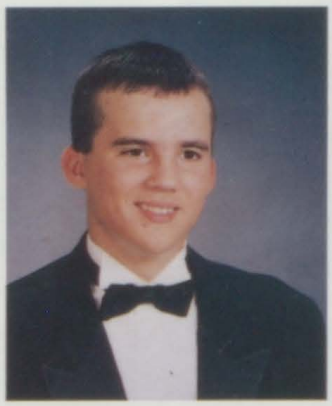
Lisa Ann Owens
Birthdate: 5-8-78
Nickname: Charlie 1



George Edward Parmenter
Birthdate: 1-22-78
Nickname: Smokey



Rebekah Dawn Penley
Birthdate: 8-24-78
Nickname: Beck



James Taylor Pike
Birthdate: 2-21-78
Nickname: Jimmy



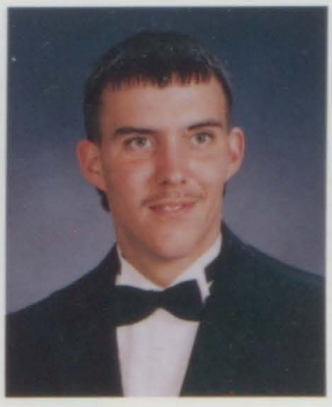
Linda Sue Prater
Birthdate: 1-21-78
Nickname: Pooh



Joe Hunter Repass
Birthdate: 7-28-77
Nickname: Joe



Melissa Corey Richardson
Birthdate: 12-22-77
Nickname: Melissa



Nathaniel Andrew Selfe
Birthdate: 11-3-77
Nickname: Homer

TOP LEFT: Erin Morrison, Amanda Jackson, and Sarah Shewey socialize before school.

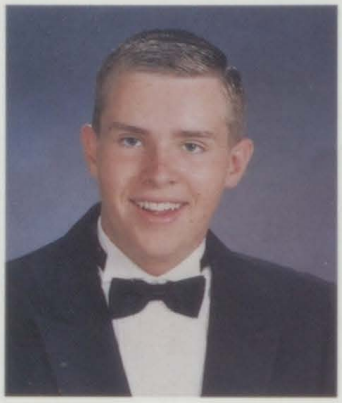
TOP RIGHT: Escort Jody Lambert observes Hanne Evensen when she receives roses from the Varsity Girls' Basketball team.







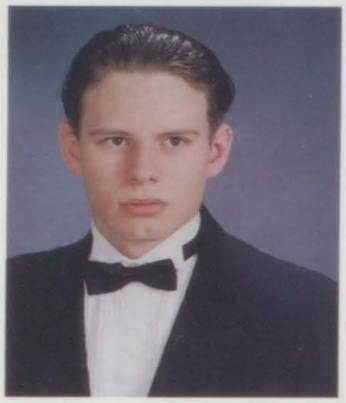
Sarah Beth Shewey
Birthdate: 12-22-77
Nickname: Sarah



Brandon Schaefer Sink
Birthdate: 4-6-78
Nickname: Brandon



Melanie Crystal Talbert
Birthdate: 9-8-78
Nickname: Mel



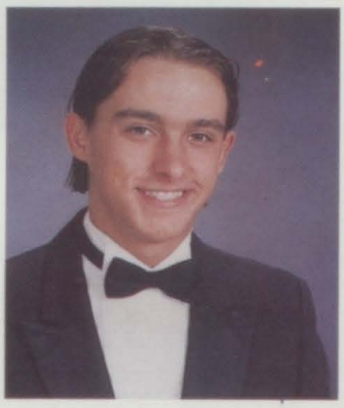
Kary Lee Taylor
Birthdate: 5-12-77
Nickname: Kary



Samantha Ann Thompson
Birthdate: 3-4-78
Nickname: Buffy



Kelly Renae Tickle
Birthdate: 5-31-78
Nickname: Kelly



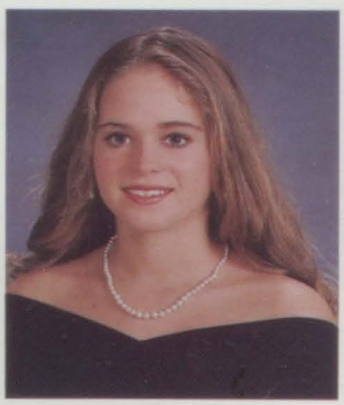
Samuel Warren Tickle
Birthdate: 8-25-78
Nickname: Sam



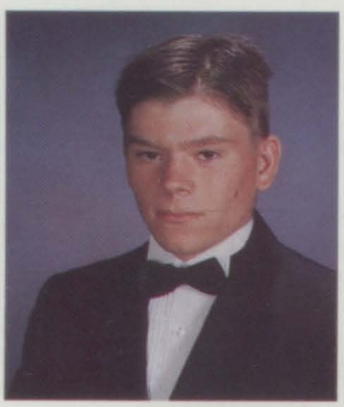
Pachess Lee Umbarger
Birthdate: 6-6-78
Nickname: Pooh



Misty Dawn Wiley
Birthdate: 12-20-78
Nickname: Misty



Cheryl Dawn Winesett
Birthdate: 8-30-78
Nickname: Cheryl



Albert Ward Wolfe, Jr.
Birthdate: 3-21-78
Nickname: Fred



Magnum Bivens



Tara Clemons



Travis Coffman



Matt Dalton



Jackie Duncan



Melissa Foglesong



tephanie Fogesong



Amber Groseclose



Madeline Harden



Brandon Hounshell



Daniel Johnson



Jessica Melvin



Justin Morehead



Charles Olinger



Michael Parks



Joe Pauley



Sarah Payne



Erin Pruett



Vada Ramsey



Dustin Riggins



Todd Scott



Angel Sparks



Travis Thompson



Dana Umbarger



Alice Jinne Stone shares her pet chinchilla with classmate Joyce Turski.

Local history occupies minds of fifth graders

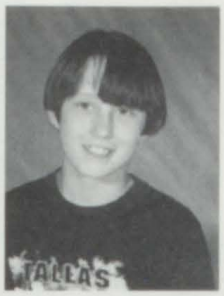
Students in Mrs. Norma Newberry's fifth grade began their excursion by interviewing senior citizens of Bland County along with taking a photo of their citizen. They learned proper photography composition as well as interviewing techniques. These were exhibited at the Festival of Leaves. In October the Indian villages they erected began making an entrance. Small and large, simple to elaborate, these creations reflected the creativeness of inquiring and learned minds.

Beginning in the fall and continuing throughout the year, fifth graders began collecting wildflowers for a final spring project. In preparing their albums, they had to press and dry the flowers and then make correct identifications, using wildflower reference books to help them.

Mrs. Newberry said of her class, "a very pleasant, happy class."
Miss Kadi Woods' group chose the month of December for their Indian villages and in the spring they made American Revolution floats.



Tonya Adams



Kelly M. Blankenship



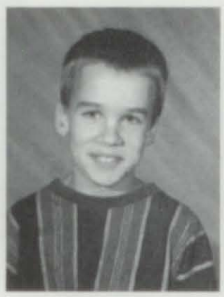
Zachary Breedlove



Eugene Brunk



Amanda Call



Scottie Clemons



Amanda Foglesong



Christopher Harman



Samantha Harner



Laura Hatcher



Stephen Howell



Brandon Kelley



David Pike



Shauna Puckett



Adam Six



Trista Six



Brandy Tate



James Thompson



Jessie Umbarger



Kolt Walker



Brandon Webb



Kevin Wimmer



Heather Wright



J. P. Agee



Jacob Begley



Kelly N. Blankenship



Keri Blankenship



Jonathan Cook



Christina M. Creggar



Dustin Davis



Ashlee Drummond



Sherri Faulkner



Larry Howell



Serina Morris



Amanda Scott



Bridget Stiltner



Rachel Turski



Christopher Viar



Staci Wheeler



Nikki Wilson



Kimberly Wright





LEFT: Mrs. Norma Newberry looks over wildflower collection album with former student, Sam Wright.

ABOVE: Indian village display for Festival of Leaves.

A new face joins the sixth grade

The '95-'96 school year brought new and exciting things to the sixth grade class. A new face, Mrs. Debi Maxfield, of Tazewell, joined with Mrs. Rochelle Nelson to lead the 43 students through their sixth grade tour. Mrs. Nelson's class completed Family History Books they composed individually. Displayed at the Festival of Leaves, their hard work was rewarded with praised comments. Along with DARE and 4-H, the sixth grade also worked on pyramids for social studies. They sponsored the Little Miss and Junior Miss beauty pageants in November. This helped raise money for their spring trip to Williamsburg, the highlight of their sixth grade pilgrimage.



Jessica Hounshell collates her family history book in the binder.



Brandon Anders



Seth Baker



Jodi Crabtree



Amie Sue Cregger



Amanda Gail Fisher



Denita Harden



Jessica Hounshell



Amber Hutchins



Christina King



Tim McGlothlin



Reggie Meadows



Anthony Newberry



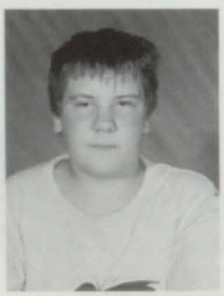
April Rambo



Shawn Reed



Andy Sarver



J. R. Shewey



Hunter Stuart



Chase Thomas



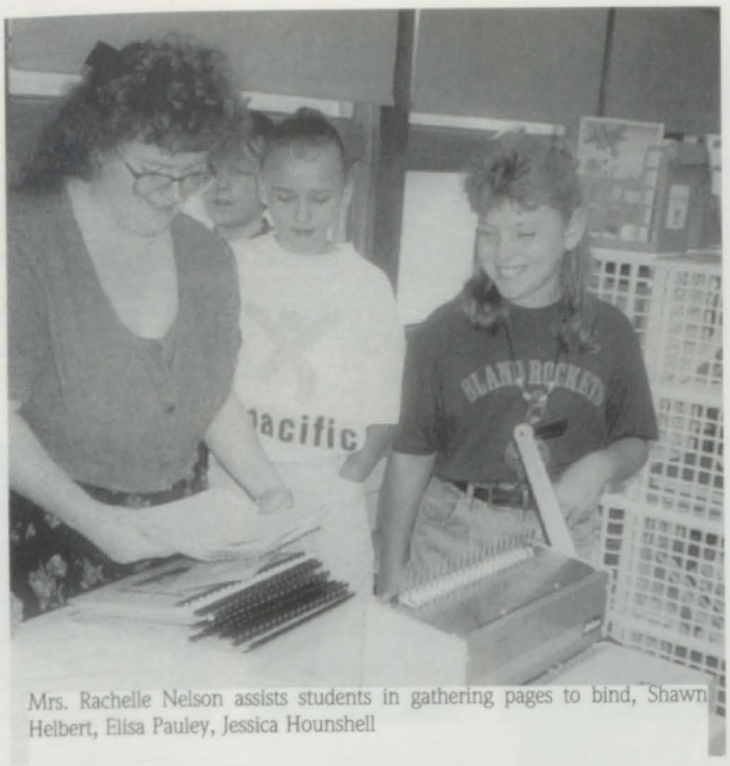
Joey Walker



D. J. Wright



Sam Wright



Mrs. Rachelle Nelson assists students in gathering pages to bind, Shawn Helbert, Elisa Pauley, Jessica Hounshell



Shanna Brown



John Clemons



John Brandon Dillow



Casey Elliott



Ben Foglesong



Miranda Foley



Eric Gray



Paul Harless



Adam Harman



Shawn Helbert



Thomas Johnson



Corey Maddox



Tonya Millirons



Elisha Pauley



Tarah Pauley



Travis Pauley



Melissa Sadler



Todd Simmons



Bryan Simms



Nena Spencer



Dorothy Umbarger



Danielle Underwood



Craig Winesett



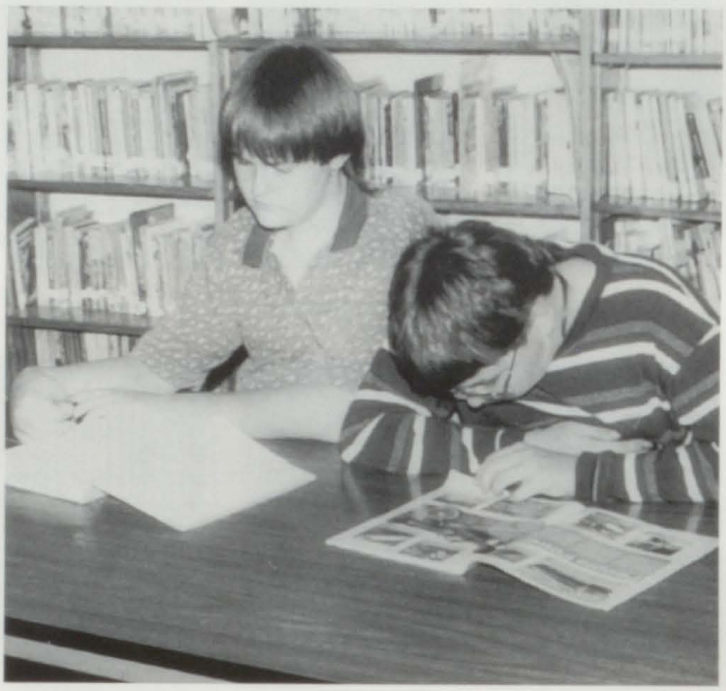
David Wolcott

Voyages of a seventh grader

Lower grades benefitted from the voyages of upper grades when seventh interviewed, wrote and illustrated a book about a primary student. The book was then given to the interviewed child. They (7th) also wrote puppet shows, created their puppets and presented their show to Kindergarten.

Environmental studies dominated their schedule when they examined food and ocean webs, trees, plants, animals, insects, and nearby creeks and ponds. Each student adopted a tree to observe during each season, logging information about the changes in the tree and why the change occurred. They researched "Birds of Bland County", recreated their habitat, and wrote poems about the birds.

The journey through the seventh grade provided informed and skilled young men and women for the future.



Kurt Blankenship and Kevin Stump pore over library books during their scheduled time.



Kurt Blankenship



Curtis Brewer



Laura Bridges



Aaron Clemons



Laurel Kittle



Elizabeth Lambert



Benjamin May



Hope Melvin



Joshew Olinger



Zachary Pauley



Sarah Pruett



Christopher Reese



Katie Scott



Charles Stiltner



Ashley Strock



Kevin Stump



Erica Vanover



James Williams



Kristen Altizer



Shelley Atwell



Samantha Bird



Jacob Davidson



Albert Davis



Kari Hagy



Eisle Havens



Monica Havens



Amy Johnson



Allen Kistler



With instructor, Lorin Hanshew, D.A.R.E. students take pride in their accomplishments as sixth graders.



Brett McPeak



Kirstie Meadows



Rachel Mullins



Matthew Richardson



Katie Scott lets her pleasure of attending the Miss Echo Dance be known as she dances with Derrick DeHart.



Jesse Rudder



Kristen Songer



Shane Thompson



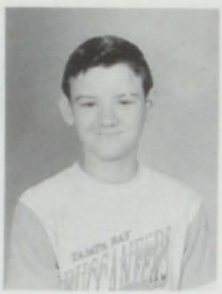
Matthew Tickle



Aaron Turski

Glimpse into past and future

The first year of secondary education was indeed a glimpse into the past and the future. Eighth graders had to recall many previously learned skills and information in order to meet class requirements. These learning experiences from elementary grades proved to be valuable tools needed to meet the fast pace of high school. For the most part, students made smooth transitions from past elementary school into the new future world of high school. Eighth graders were introduced into new and exciting clubs, organizations, extracurricular activities, demanding academics, and a variety of sports and physical activities.



Randy Bearrington



Carey Berg



Will Blankenship



Allesha Bourne



Heather Clemons



Sarah Coffman



Lian Cole



Brandon Faulkner



Brian Faulkner



James Faulkner



Josh Faulkner



Krissy Goins



Jason Hagy



Kelli Hall



Crystal Hancock



Nehemiah Hickman



Jeb Hodges



Nathan Justice



Rob Kegley



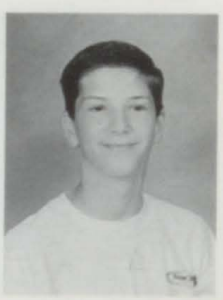
Jessica Kidd



Heather Morehead



Stuart Morehead

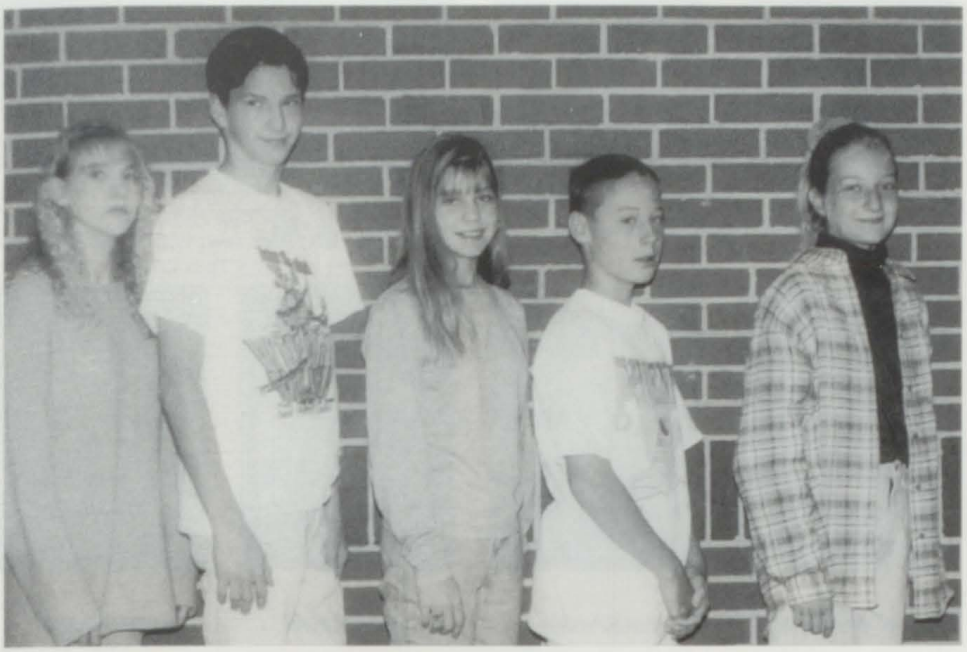


Robert Newberry



Aaron Pauley

CLASS OFFICERS: Kelli Hall, president; Robert Newberry, vice president; Ashley Tate, secretary; Brian Faulkner, treasurer; Heather Morehead, reporter. Not pictured: Mrs. Carolyn Bane, sponsor.



Stuart Morehead, James Faulkner, and Josiah Smith take a break from dancing at the Miss Echo Dance.





Chris Pauley



Will Pauley



Meagan Penley



Virginia Presley



Lila Ramsey



Monica Reed



Kellen Shewey



Kelly Sluss



Josiah Smith



Ted Sparks



Susan Stanley



Crystal Stiltner



Ashley Tate



April Umbarger



Amy Viar



Dawn Wright



Mindy Willie

Freshmen movin' on

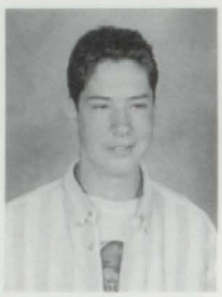
Freshmen class members continued "movin' on" during school year 95-96. With their dreaded eighth grade year under their belts, these now familiar students felt more comfortable and prepared for their journey through high school. Many ninth graders found their freshman year to be another very important foundation.



CLASS OFFICERS-Front row: Josh Breedlove, president; Michael Lambert, vice-president; Ashleigh Sarver, secretary. Back row: John Chmara, sponsor; Olena Sexton, treasurer; Titus Ramsey, reporter.



D. J. Belcher



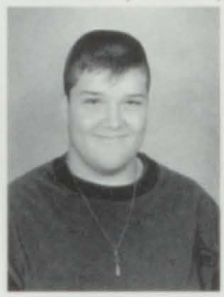
Chris Berg



April Blankenship



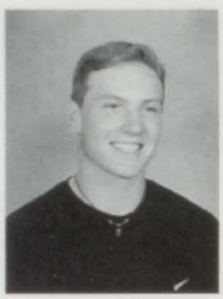
Josh Breedlove



Chad Brewer



Jeff Brunk



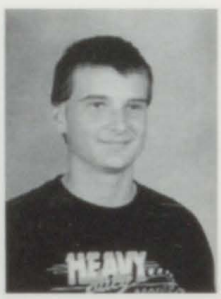
Adam Carroll



Laura Clifton



Jessica Crawford



Mark Davidson



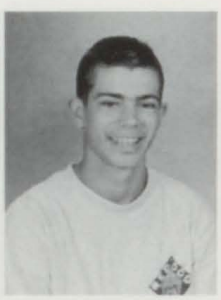
Nikki Elliott



Billy Floyd



Leslie Gordon



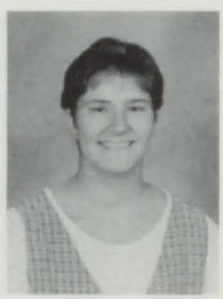
Jesse Goss



Renee Gross



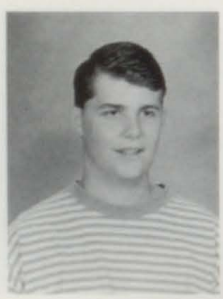
Clinton Hagy



Kari Harner



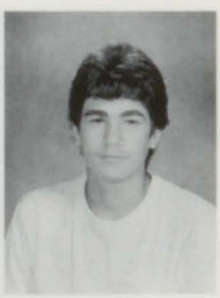
Cicely Havens



Jacob Hess



Lynda Holt



Jerry Jesse



Erin Johnson



Mandy Jones



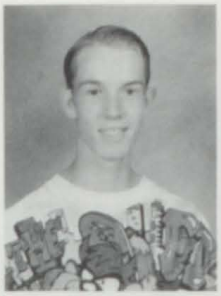
Shasta Jones



Stella Joyce



Michael Lambert



Josh Lester



Josie McMillan



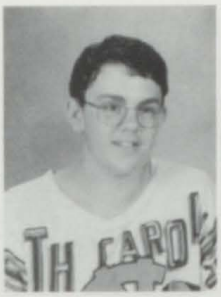
Kent McPeak



Joe Meadows



Katie Muncy



David Olinger



Wes Patton



Tina Pauley



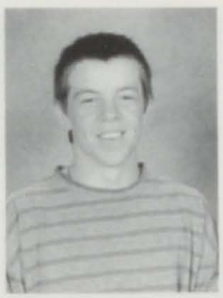
Shelly Payne



Casie Pruitt



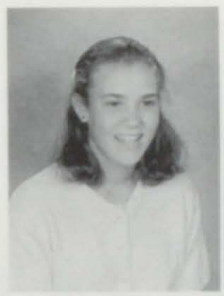
Heath Puckett



Titus Ramsey



Josh Richardson



Ashleigh Sarver



Ricky Sarver



Olena Sexton



Allison Sheets



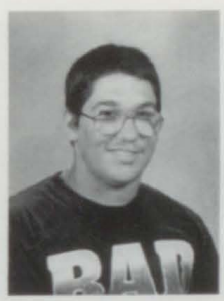
Amber Simmons



Brent Tate



Jeremiah Tate



Daniel Thompson



T.J. Thompson



Jessica Umbarger



Christa Winesett



Nathan Winters



Ronnie Wolfe



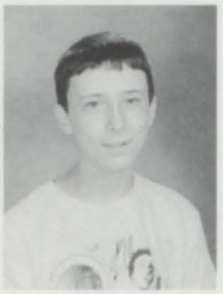
Kelly Woods

A year of firsts for sophomores

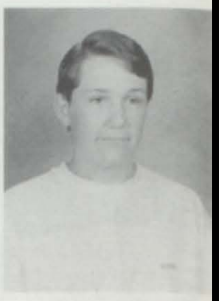
'95 was a year of firsts for the sophomore class. These 10th graders became eligible for a Virginia learners permit after their 15th birthday. Computerized report cards were first used in the fall at BHS. The nine sophomore girls who comprised the JV basketball team, aroused the pride of the fans with continued winnings.



Sarah Bird



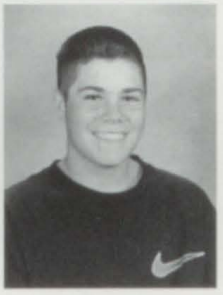
Jesse Blankenship



Kris Blankenship



Jeremiah Clemons



Jeremy Dillow



Kelly Dunn



Mandy Blankenship



Leslie Carroll

Jim Bob Penley at Bristol with his Reserve Champion Simmental heifer. He also won 1st in the age class.





Adam Faulkner



Stephanie Ferrari



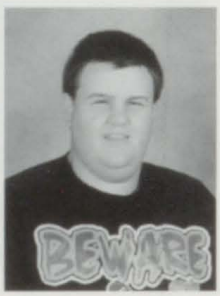
Michael Fulford



Whitney Gamble



Jason Groseclose



Josh Gusler



Leisa Hagy



Evan Hall



Ashley Havens



Nicole Howell



Stephanie Kelley



Kelli King



Sara King



Brooke Kitts



Paul Lindamood



Philip Meadows



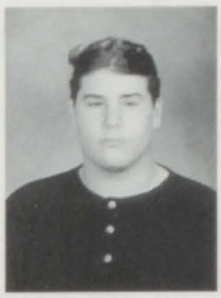
Sandra Melvin



Stacey Miller



Debbie Munsey



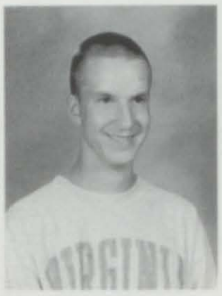
Jason Neal



David Neel



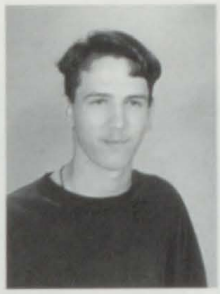
April Nelson



Ryan Newberry



Jim Bob Penley



Wes Quinn



Eric Reed



Tanya Sarver



Andrew Schoeneman



Meagan Shewey



Sharon Shewey



Sarah Smith



Heather Stiltner



Lorie Tabor



CLASS OFFICERS-**Front row:** Ashley Havens, president. **2nd row:** Mandy Blankenship, secretary/treasurer; Leisa Hagy, reporter. **Back row:** Mrs. Sandra Harman, sponsor; Jason Groseclose, vice-president.



Erin Thompson



Jeremy Thompson



John Kelly Thompson



Isaac Tyeryar



Jennifer Walker



Elizabeth Whittaker



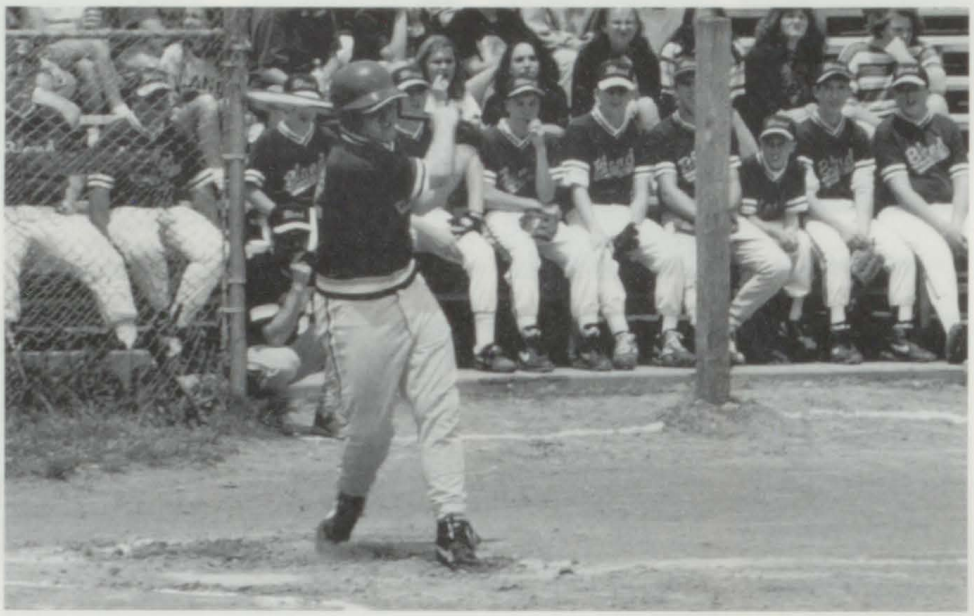
Sondra Wolfe



Missy Woods

Expedition nearing end

The journey towards graduation began for the junior class. Much time and thought was given to preparing for and taking SAT tests and looking at potential colleges. Other classmates prepared for careers by attending vocational school and other vocational classes. Juniors quickly claimed a legal space in the student parking lot with stern instructions from the seniors to keep out of their territory. Much of their time has been devoted to fund-raisers, such as poster sales, and making plans for the junior-senior prom.



With teammates and fans to encourage, Ben Chewning puts power behind the bat.



Jeremy Blankenship



Keith Bourne



Amanda Brown



Ben Chewning



Mary Jane Chewning



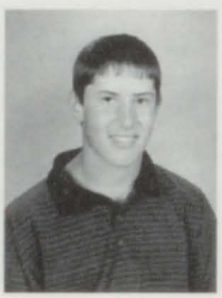
Benjamin Davis



Derrick DeHart



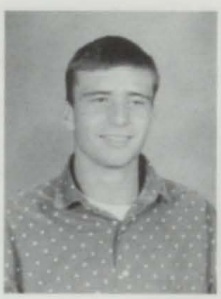
Marie Dotson



Jamie Dunn



Melissa French



Jason Hancock



Amy Hanshew



Casey Johnston



Tracie Jones



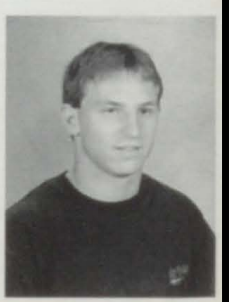
Jason Kidd



Lisa Kimberlin



Cindy King



J.B. Lambert



CLASS OFFCIERS-Front row: Derrick DeHart, president; Ben Chewning, vice-president; J. B. Lambert, treasurer. Back row: Mrs. Debbie Whitt, sponsor; John Curtis Thompson, secretary; Ms. LaMoore Muncy, sponsor.



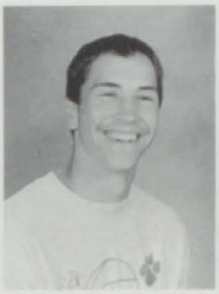
Michael Kay Mabe



Jamie McMillian



Lee Meadows



JonMichael Newberry



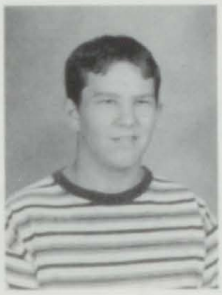
Holly Pauley



James Payne



Michael Pruett



Jermey Reed



Rae Romano



Seth Roseberry



Jacob Scott



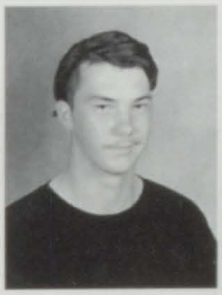
Kristina St. Clair



John Curtis Thompson



Amanda Umbarger



Darrell Wellman



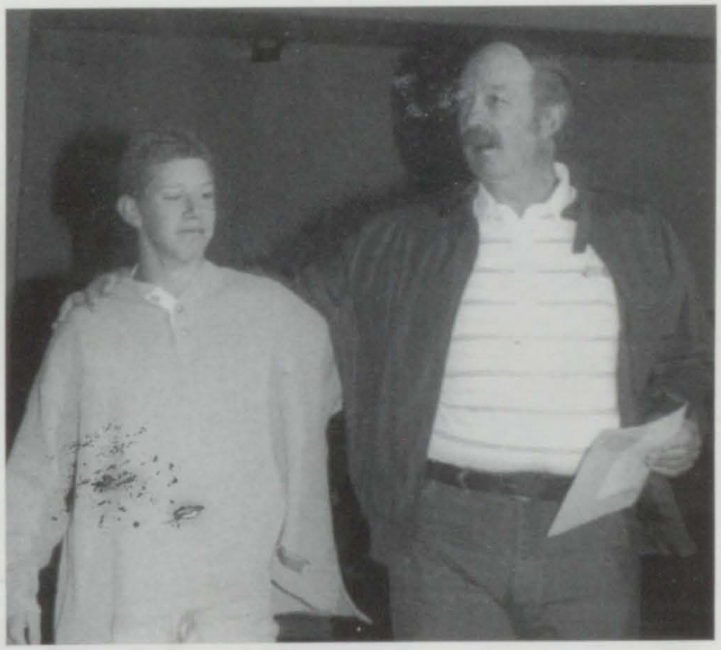
Eric Wimmer



Jennifer Winters



Faye Wolfe



Being sold as a Beta slave is no big deal for Lee Meadows as auctioneer, Mr. Richard Havens, escorts him across the gym.

School days were both exciting and eventful for the faculty of Bland Elementary School. Working toward one common goal - the education of our youth - was the major concern of these dedicated educators. A united effort led to a successful school year for both students and teachers. Mrs. Barbara Reed and Mrs. Debbie Massie exchanged placements for the 1995-96 school year. Miss Pam Chewning was hired as the new SPED teacher aide. Mrs. Debbie Maxfield accepted a teaching position in the sixth grade, and Mrs. Laura Radford moved from the sixth grade to the second grade. Bland Elementary was proud of a fine job and the many hours of hard work that the teachers and staff committed themselves to.

While grown ups finish meal the children find enterainment with big bubbles.

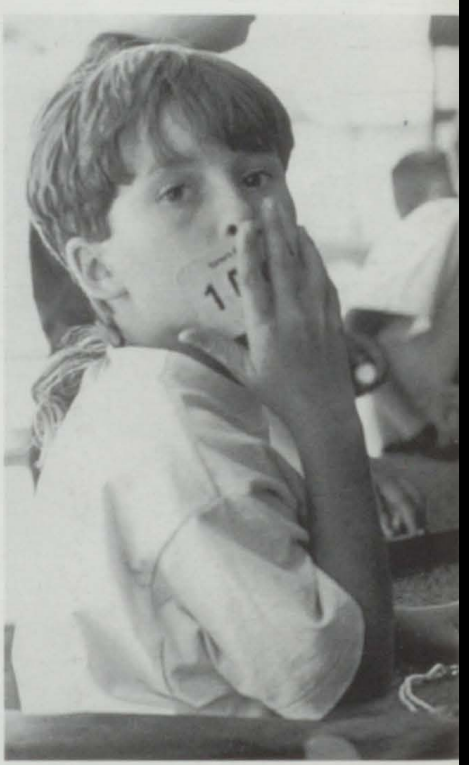




Friends gather after exercise workout.

Adam Harman shows his work of art during the fa festival of leaves.





Dana Umbarger enjoys the shooting gallery.

Journeying with our mentors

Tiny footsteps attempted to match the long strides of their master teachers as they followed to the cafeteria, gym, and library. These master teachers set goals in all subject matter and guided minds and bodies to accomplish seemingly impossible tasks.

After a beginning of tears and disappointments, they soon found their niche in the classroom and settled down to learning and expanding those inquisitive minds. Their journey of learning through the classroom was merely a continuation of a journey which began at birth and would continue until the end of life.

Each step of the journey would leave many impressions and images on the memories of every child and teacher. With daily interactions changes were wrought on both the learner and the mentor.



Mrs. Ruth W. Groseclose
34 years; Principal; BS-Concord C., MS-Radford U.



Mr. Fred J. Simpkins, III
18 years; Assistant Principal, Seventh grade; AAS-WCC, BA-Emory & Henry.



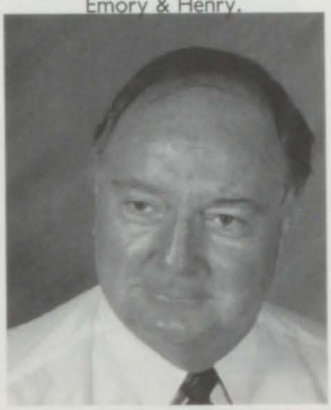
Mrs. Ruth Ann Barton
5 years; Second grade; BS-Bluefield State.



Mrs. Rita Elizabeth Carver
6 years; Chapter I Reading; BS-Bluefield College.



Mrs. Sue Coleman
17 years; Sp. Ed. Resource; BS/MS-Radford U.



Mr. Robert E. Correll
9 years; Beginning, Intermediate, Secondary Band; BS-Austin Peay State U.



Mrs. Sue Dunford
28 years; Third grade; BS-Radford U.



Dr. David Clark Foltz
31 years; Elementary guidance; BA-Roanoke, MA-Kean, PhD-Southern Ill. U.



Mrs. Lana L. Hall
3 years; Third grade; BS-Bluefield College.



Mrs. Patricia S. Hankins
7 years; Elementary Physical Education; BS-Bluefield College.



Ms. Jo Ellen Harless
20years; LD/EMH Modifield Self-Contanied; BS-Concord College



Mrs Barbara M. Justice
10 years; Fourth grade; BS-Pikeville College

Images of role models indelibly printed on young minds

Helping to build self-confidence and esteem was a challenge for each teacher along this journey of education. Providing a good role model made the task easier by showing students they **are** somebody and they can be whatever they choose to be. Images of

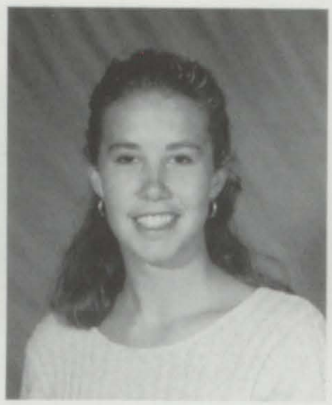
(continued on next page)



Mrs. Deborah Diane Massie
7 years; Upper Elementary Self-Contained; BS-WVU.



Mrs. Deborah Maxfield
39 years; Sixth grade; BS-Bluefield C.



Miss Jenny Meadows
2 years; Substitute teacher; BS-Radford U.



Mrs. June M. Miller
33 years; First grade; BS-King College.



Enjoying stone soup at the Festival exhibits are Diana Tibbs and Glenda Scott.



Mrs. Rachelle C. Nelson
7 years; Sixth grade; BA-Alice Lloyd College.



Ms. Elizabeth G. Newberry
29 years; Librarian; BS/MS-Radford U.



Mrs. Norma Newberry
30 years; Fifth grade; BS-Radford U.

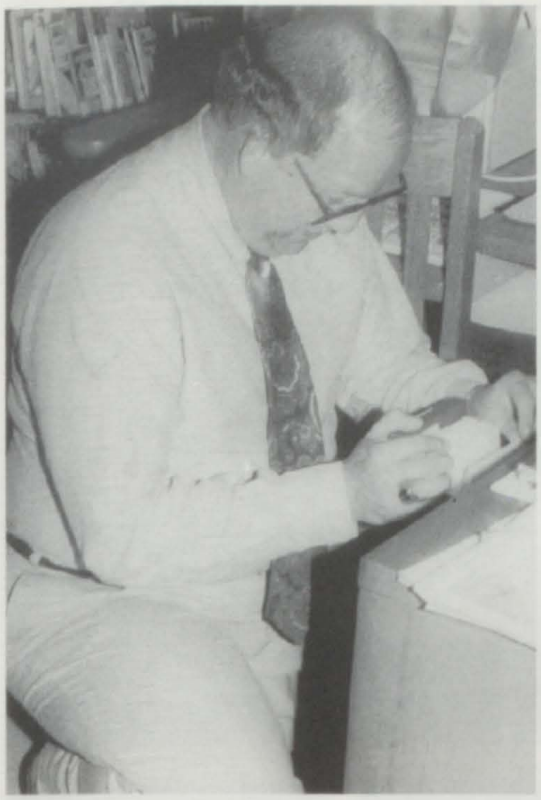


Mrs. Iris C. Pruett
25 years; Kindergarten; BS-Radford U.

Mr. Fred Simpkins takes a trip through the card catalog.
Mrs. Rita Carver shows the Stone Soup magazine while cooking stone soup at the Festival of Leaves.

(continued from previous page)

smiles, happiness, and determination became indelibly printed on the minds of these youngsters. These images are forever mirrored in their reflections of happy school days at Bland Elementary School.







Mrs. Laura Radford
5 years; Second grade; BS-Bluefield College.



Mrs. Barbara Ann Reed
9 years; Handicapped self-contained; BA-Lambuth College.



Mrs. Glenda Scott
2 years; Student teacher; BS-Bluefield C.



Ms. Janet Hamilton Scott
23 years; Fourth grade; BS/MS-Radford U.



Mrs. Rebecca W. Scott
22 years; Kindergarten; BA-King C., MA-Radford U.



Mrs. Michelle Thompson
10 years; Speech-language pathologist; BS/MS(CCC-SLP)-Radford U.



Mrs. Diana Tibbs
7 years; Seventh grade; BS-Bluefield State.



Mrs. Gwen Vicars
5 years social work, 11 years teaching; First grade; BS-ETSU, BS-Bluefield State.



Ms. Kimberly Dyane Woods
7 years; Fifth grade; BS-Radford U.

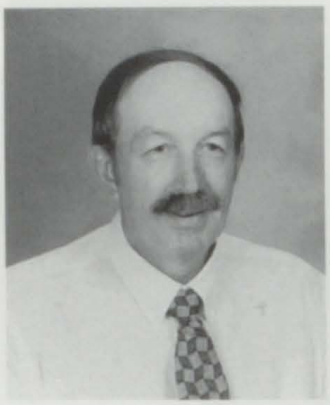
Faculty images were stored memories

Remembered images from high school migrations usually included several faculty members, especially those who made lasting impressions because of their teaching methods and caring attitudes. Teachers also carried images of

(continued on next page)



Mr. Roger Dale Thompson
29 years; Principal; Sponsor: Golf, Baseball; BS-VPI, MS-Radford U.



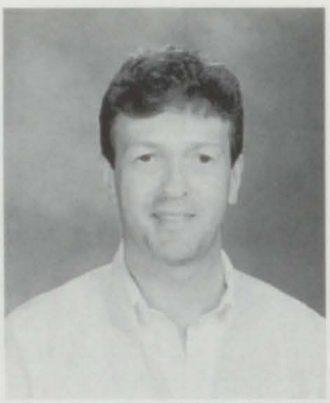
Mr. Richard Crockett Havens
27 years; Assistant Principal; US History, Accounting, 8th History; Sponsor: Senior Class, MACC Social Studies; BS-Bluefield State.



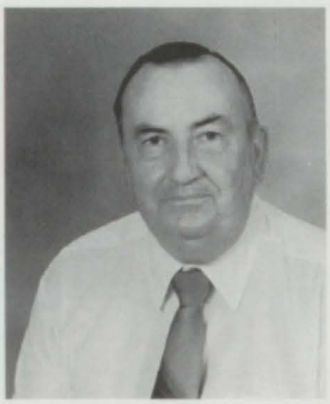
Mrs. Carolyn B. Bane
37 years; Industrial Cooperative Coordinator; Sponsor: Vocational Clubs of America, 8th Grade Class; BS/MS-Radford U.



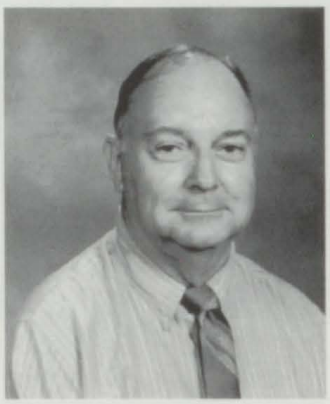
Mrs. Christine R. Bird
16 years; English 8, 9, 10; Sponsor: Newspaper, Forensics; BS-Radford U.



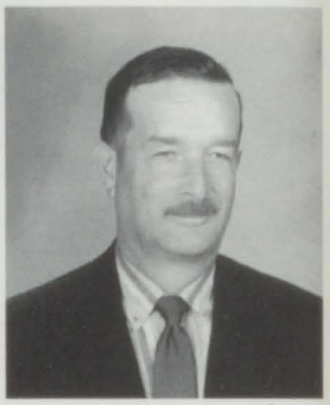
Mr. Darrell Burnett
French I & II; Sponsor: French Club; BA-Radford U.



Mr. John Chmara
39 years; Pre-Algebra, Math I & II, Math Applications, World History; Sponsor: 9th Grade Class, Varsity Football Assistant; BA/Marshall U.



Mr. Robert E. Correll
9 years; Beginning, Intermediate, Secondary Band; BS-Austin Peay State U.



Mr. William H. Crabtree
29 years; Agriculture; Sponsor: FFA; BS/MS-VPI.



Ms. Janet B. Faulkner
27 years; English 10,11,12, Dual Credit english; Sponsor: Senior Beta, Beta State Sponsor; BS/MS-Radford U.



Mr. Richard Dale Hankins
10 years; Secondary Physical Education, Math II, Algebra I; Sponsor: Varsity Boys' Basketball; BS-Bluefield State.



Ms. Jerri E. Harman
1 year; Latin Facilitator; BS-Bluefield State.



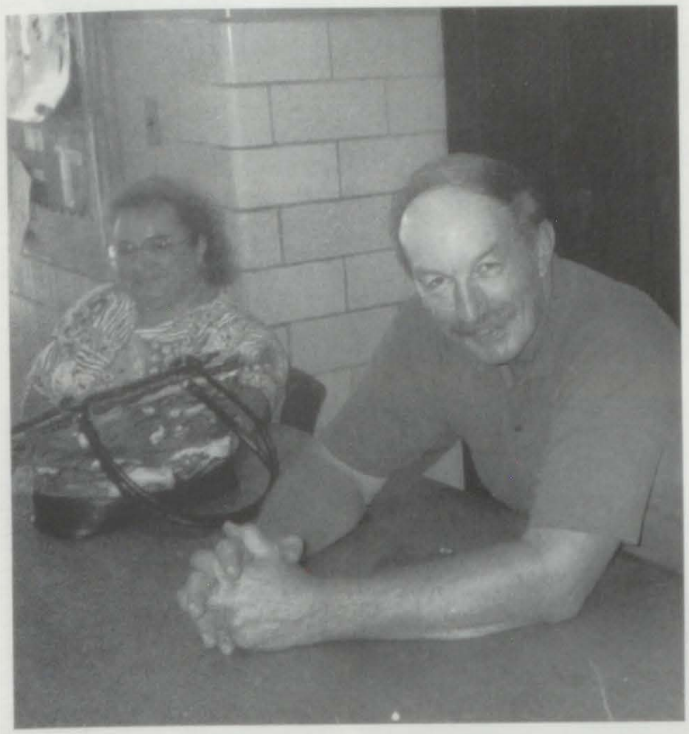
Mrs. Sandra Green Harman
19 years; Secondary Adaptive, Photo-Journalism I; Sponsor: Sophomore Class, Yearbook; BS/MS-Radford U.

(continued from previous page)

their students, those who were dedicated to learning and doing the best job possible.

Secondary faculty members continued to learn while teaching. Computerized grade sheets and report cards appeared on the scene for 95-96. Using the Columbia system, all scheduling and reporting was completed on the new computer setup in the library.

Mrs. Brenda Penley mirrors her amusement as Mr. Richard Havens gets his picture taken while on hall duty.





Mrs. Jessie Davis Kegley
32 years; Keyboarding, Office Administration, Computer Info. Systems; Sponsor: FBLA; BS-ETSU.



Mrs. Kay Mabe
15 years; Geometry, Algebra II, Advanced Math, Calculus; Sponsor: MACC Math ; BS-Radford U.



Miss Teena Rae Morefield
18 years; Counselor; Secondary Gifted Coordinator; Sponsor: Jr. Beta, Volleyball, Varsity Girls' Basketball; BS-Concord, MS-UVA.



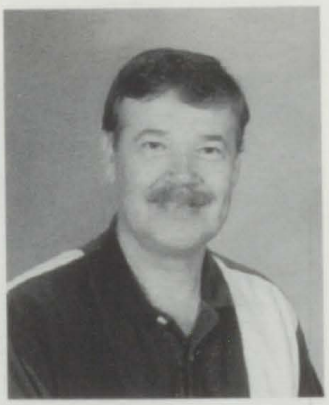
Ms LaMoore Muncy
3 years; Secondary Physical Education, World Geography; Sponsor: Junior Class, 8th & JV Girls' Basketball; BS-Radford U.



Ms. Elizabeth G. Newberry
29 years; Librarian-Secondary & Elementary; Sponsor: Yearbook, Photography; BS/MS-Radford U.



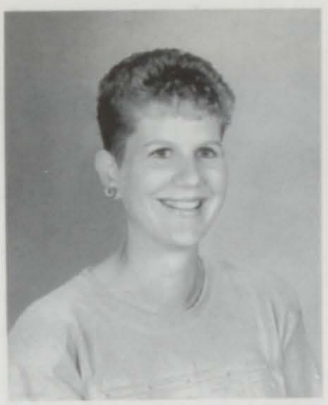
Mrs. Rebecca M. Peery
14 years; French III, IV; Sponsor: French Club, English MACC; BS/MA-Radford U.



Mr. Alfred E. Smith
14 years; Biology I & II, Physical Science; Sponsor: SCA, All-Around MACC; BS-Concord C.



Mr. John Harkrader Wagoner
11 years; Chemistry, Earth Science, Physics; Sponsor: Science MACC, Photography; BS-Radford U.



Mrs. Deborah Whitt
8 years; Civics, Sociology, Government, Economics; Sponsor: Junior Class, Cheerleading-football & basketball-JV & 8th; BA-Emory & Henry C.



Ms Sylvia G. Williams
13 years; Family Relations, Family & Human Services, Elementary Computer Science; Sponsor: FHA; BS-JMU, MS-Indiana U.

Personnel join the journey

For as many as twenty-six years or as little as one, Bland High School Personnel have driven children home, helped them to learn, given them lunch, made repairs, kept the buildings clean, or just showed that they cared. These people were an important part of a school day and were dedicated employees who kept the school system's ship assail. Their images were recognized by all who associated them with their tasks. Regardless of the nature of their jobs, these hard working people pitched in to make each school day begin and end with a healthy outlook. School personnel definitely played an important role in the 1995-96 school year.

OPPOSITE PAGE: The making of Festival plaques — This young man uses his creativity with Mrs. Barbara Justice's assistance.



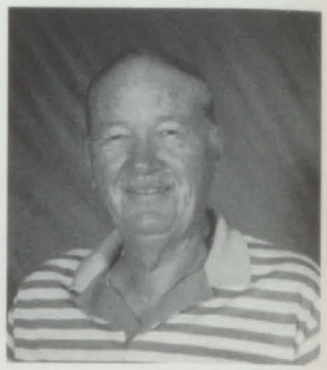
Mr. Louie Ayers
16 years; Maintenance



Mrs.Norma Sue Beavers
15 years; Chapter I Parent-Home Coordinator



Mrs.Violet Bird
23 years; Instructional aide



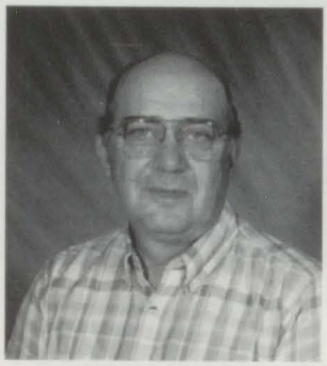
Mr. Harold Bivens
13 years; Bus driver



Mrs. Bonnie C. Blankenship
12 years; Secondary secretary/ bookeeper



Mrs. Helen Blankenship
18 years; Remedial/reading/math aide



Mr. Jack Blankenship
2 year; Bus driver



Mrs. Judy Brown
3 years; SPED Driver



Mrs. Nadine L. Bridges
28 years; Instructional aide; WCC



Mrs. Nancy Brown
9 years; Lunchroom

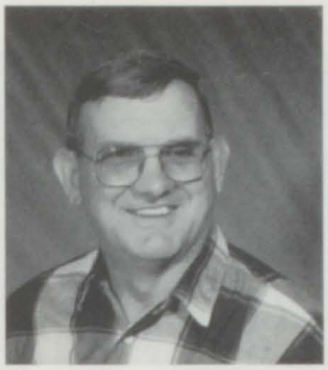


Mrs. Joyce Cassell
19 years; Instructional aide

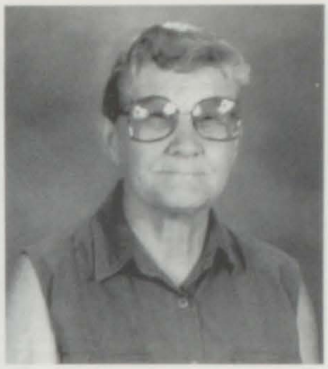


Miss Pam Chewning
1 year; SPED Instructional aide

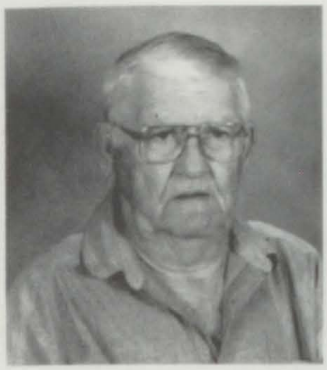




Mr. William Moore Creggar
20 years; Remedial reading/math aide; Bus driver; Marion C., WCC



Mrs. Louise Elmore
4 years; Lunchroom



Mr. Charles T. Fain
5 years; Mainentance Supervisor



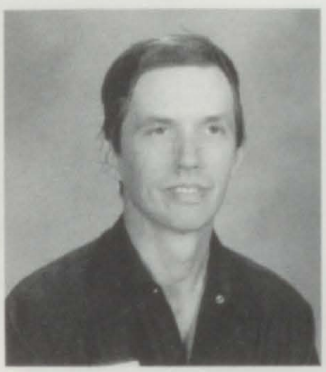
Mrs. Pam Gore
27 years; Elementary secretary/ bookkeeper



Mrs. Irma K. Havens
11 years; Bus driver



Mr. Harvey Hull
4 years; Custodian



Mr. Johnny Hull
4 years; Custodian



Mrs. Pat Johnson
15 years; Instructional aide



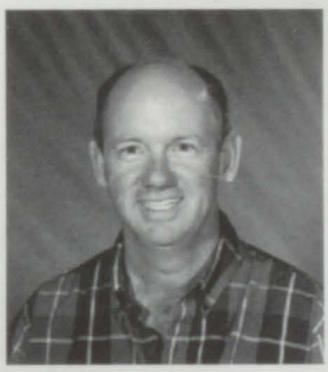
Mrs. Flora Jones
3 years; Lunchroom



Mrs. Susie Meadows
10 years; Bus driver, Substitute teacher



Mrs. Mary Melvin
18 years; Lunchroom



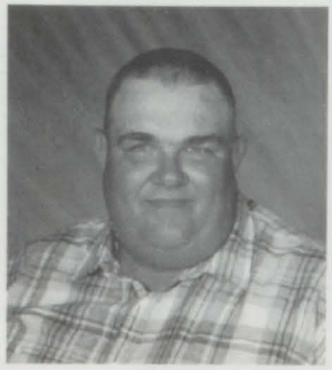
Mr. Jimmy Michaels
8 years; Bus driver, Substitute teacher



Mrs. Linda Moses
8 years; Bus driver



Mrs. Regina Newberry
19 years; Bus driver



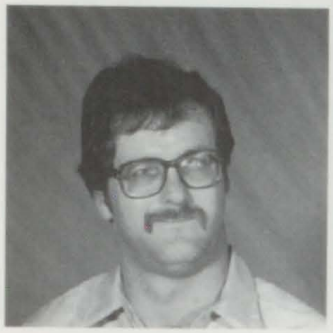
Mr. Bobby Penley
27 years sub. bus driver; 2 year voc. trans.



Mrs. Brenda Penley
13 years; Bus driver, Instructional aide



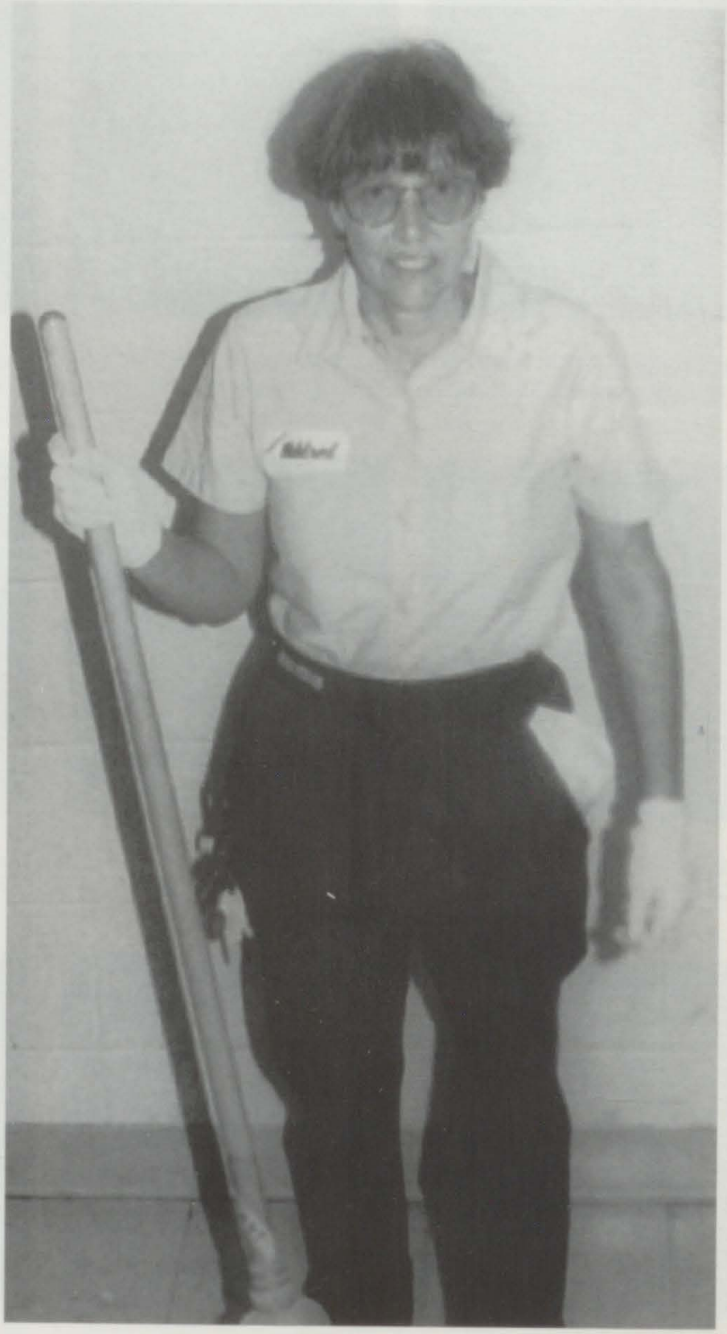
Mrs. Brenda Pike
15 years ; Bus driver



Mr. Keith Sargent
10 years; custodian



Mrs. Nancy Stockner
23 years; Gifted educational assistant.



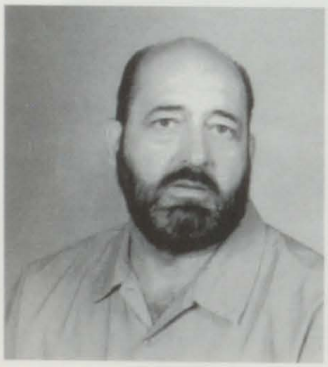
Mrs. Mildred Owens
2 years; Custodian



Mrs. Iris Strock
9 years; Elem. Resource Music, Sub. teacher, cheerleader sponser



Mrs. Dot Tibbs
17 years; Lunchroom



Mr. Sonny Turner
13 years; Custodian



Mrs. Mary Wimmer
10 years; Bus driver



Academics

Agriculture students wait patiently for their teacher to give them instructions.



Journeys in practicality

Bland High offers many vocational classes in agriculture and shop, life skills (home economics), Industrial Cooperative Training, and a variety of business classes. In addition to these offerings, students may choose to attend Wythe Vocational classes where they receive practical training and hands-on experience in their selected field. First year students attend morning classes while veteran students go to afternoon sessions.

Students in ICT work after school for local farmers and businesses. In addition to earning-while-learning, these students are exposed to preparing taxes, submitting resumès, and job interviews.

Business classes offer office type environments where students learn the basics of typing and computers. Areas of agriculture and life skills give practical experience to prospective farmers and homemakers.





CENTER: First year Agriculture students prepare poles for tents for the Festival of Leaves.
BOTTOM RIGHT: Tracie Jones and Mary Chewning, Wythe Vocational students, spend free time in the library when vocational classes are cancelled due to snow schedules.







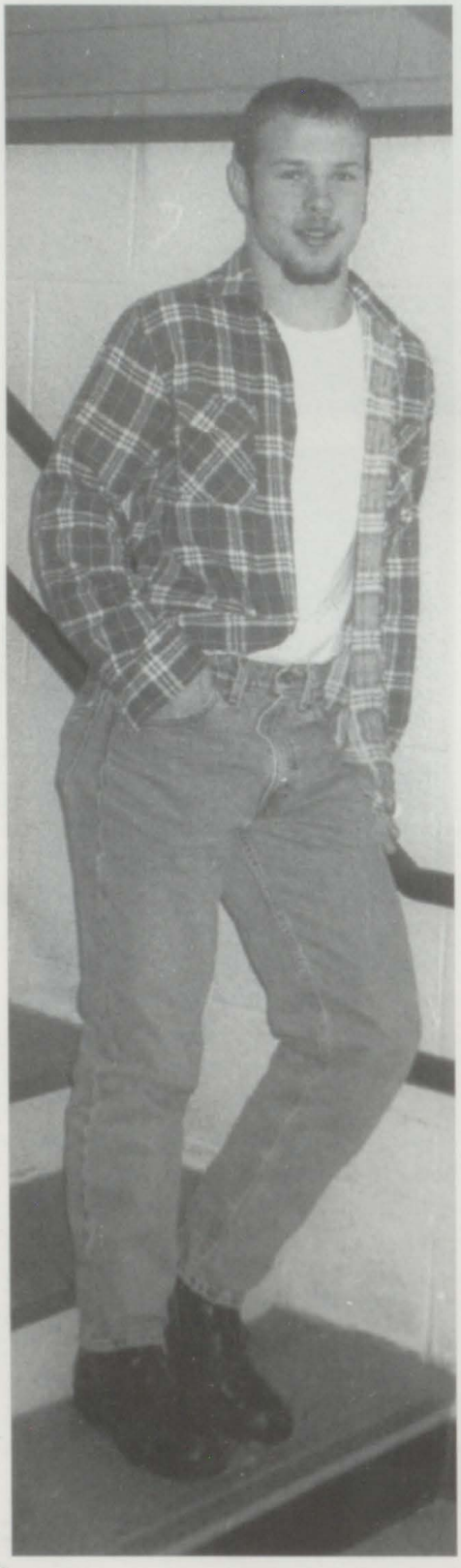
TOP: The art of ceramics is taught to life skills classes by Mrs. Helen Howell. Learning to apply a base coating are Jimmy Pike, Stephanie Ferrari, and Sarah Shewey.

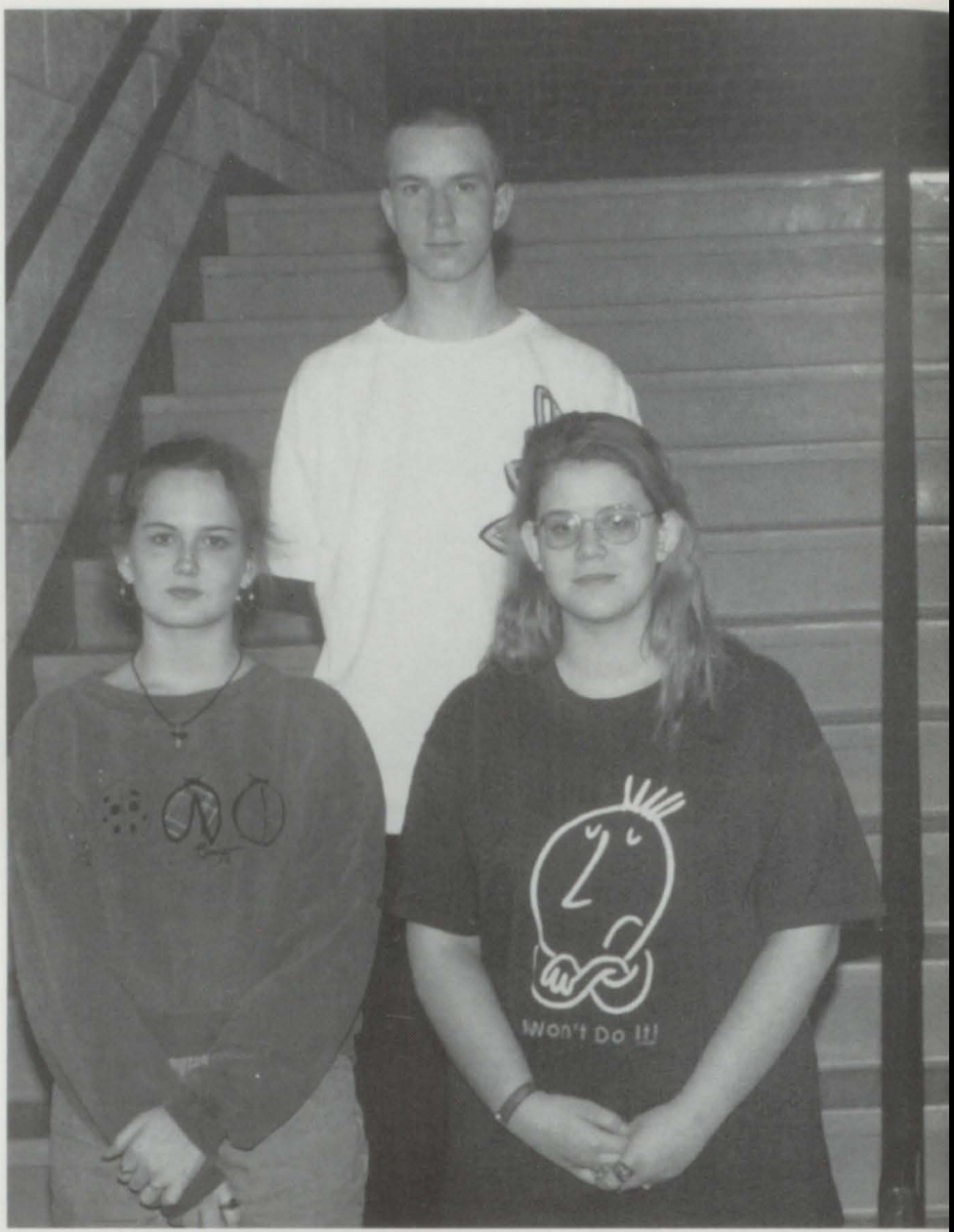
BOTTOM LEFT: Cheryl Brunk, Christina St. Clair, and Becky Penley fine tune their computer skills.

BOTTOM RIGHT: Working with ceramic figurines are Stacey Miller, Mrs. Helen Howell, and Lisa Owens.

CENTER-HONOR LETTERS-**Front row:** Casey Johnston, Missy Woods, Debbie Munsey, Pachess Umbarger.
Back row: Ryan Newberry, Derrick DeHart, Ashley Havens.

LEFT-DAR AWARD: Todd Morehead.



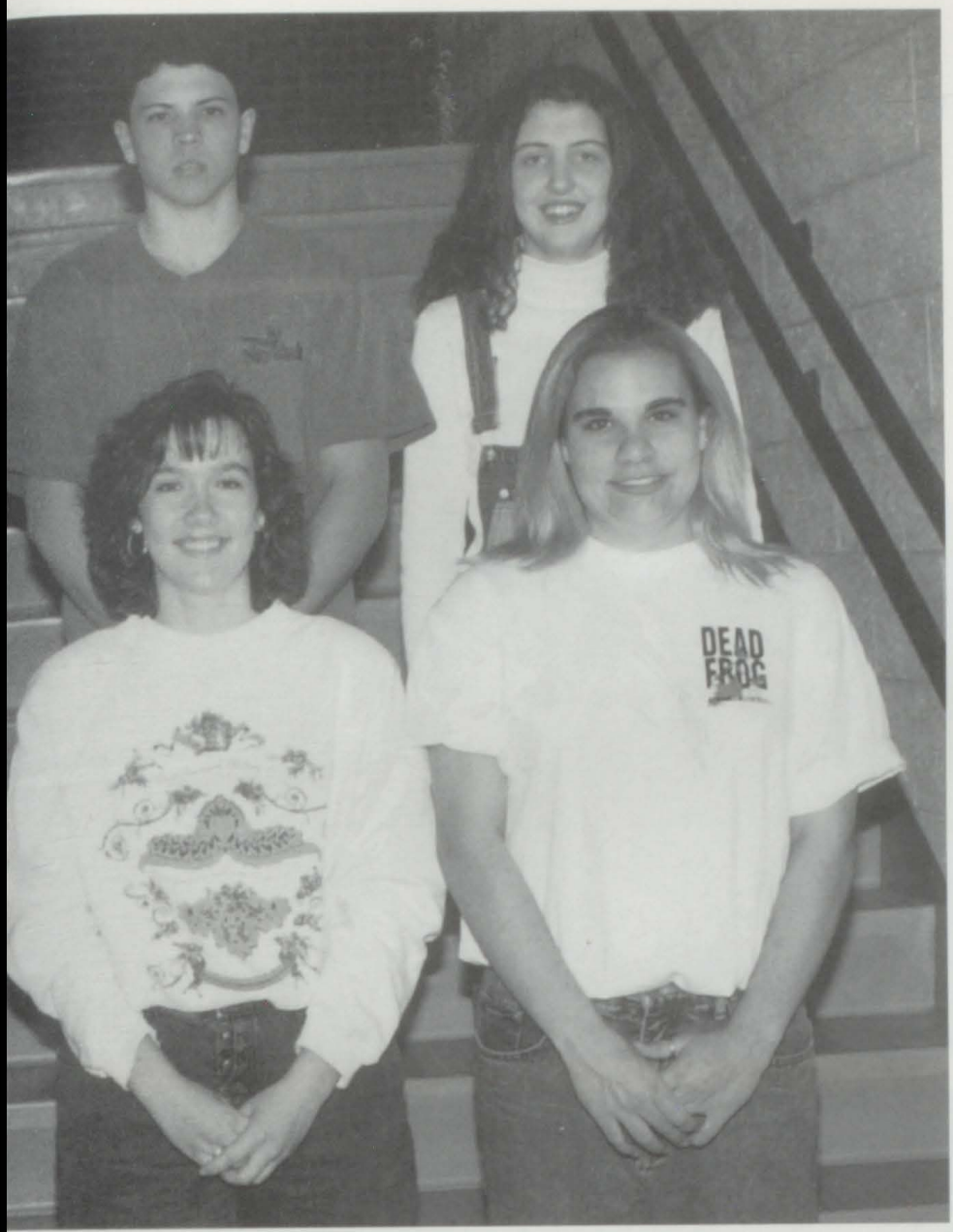


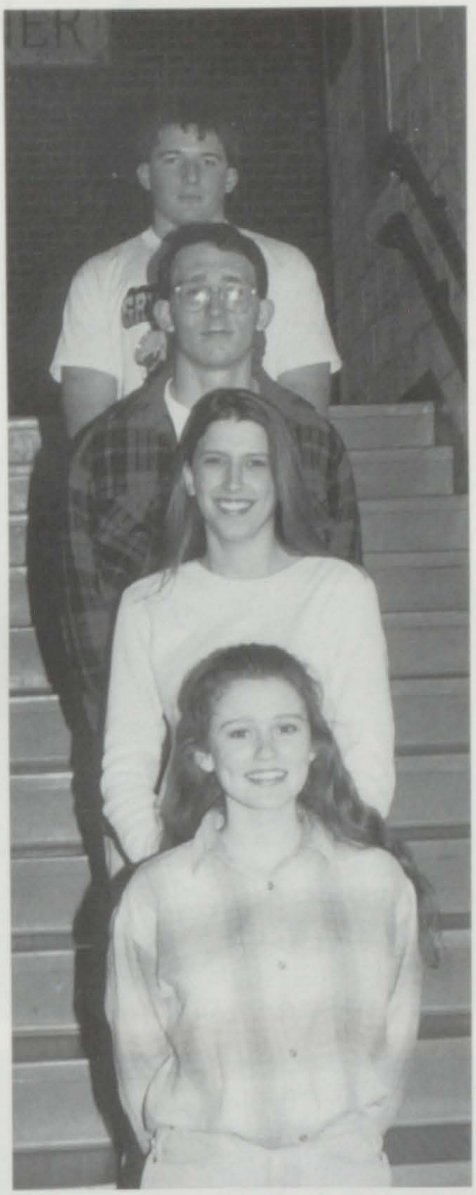


DOUBLE BAR HONOR: Melissa Richardson.



Presently a commuting student at WCC, Cheryl Winesett earned a double bar honor for her junior year at BHS.





BAR HONORS

ABOVE - Michael Kay Mabe, Amy Hanshew, Keith Bourne, Jacob Scott.

BELOW - Jennifer Winters.



Students excel toward goals

On the educational highway, students sped toward a destination. For most, that destination was graduating from high school. From their entrance to this much traveled thoroughfare they began gaining knowledge to prepare them for the future. At each pitstop (any temporary lull, as summer break) they refueled their energies and redefined their goals. For a select few who set high standards for themselves, one goal was to attain and maintain a 95 and above average. Those who achieved their mark received an honor letter the first year and bars for each additional year.

Each year seniors and faculty select from the senior class one student who best exemplified a good citizen. This honor was based on the student's overall activities in academics, extra-curricular, and community life. The chosen senior was then required to write an essay. This honor was sponsored by the Daughters of the American Revolution.

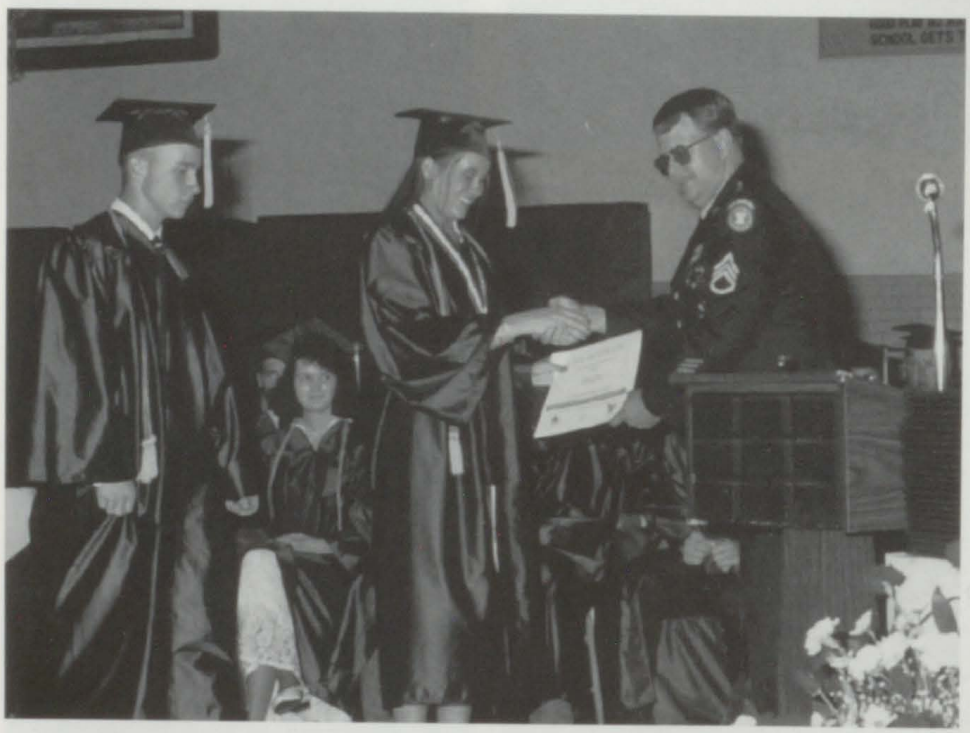
At the end of the evening

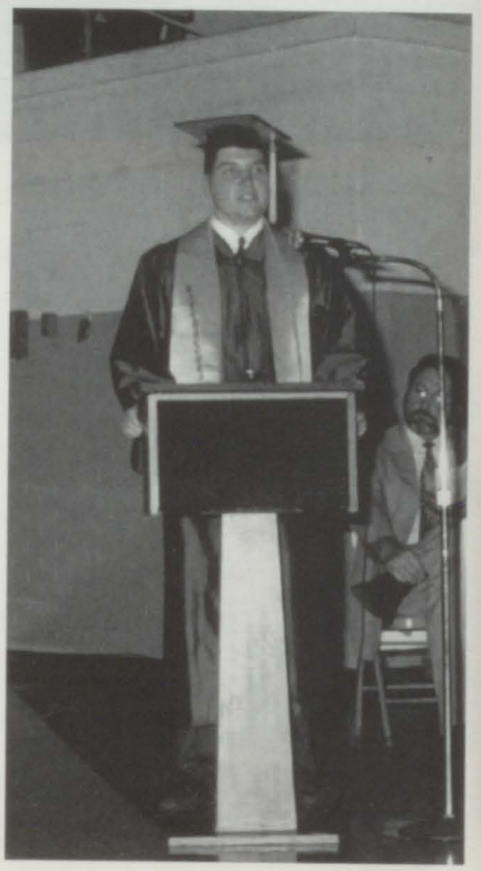
As the graduating class of 1995 marched down the aisle on June 2, 1995, they were filled with emotions that ran rampant. Their thoughts turned to "future voyages" that created feelings of anxiety, adventure, hope, and loss.

Forty-three diplomas were presented to graduates by principal Roger Thompson. Robbie Morehead accepted honors bestowed upon the class Valedictorian. Joanie Lambert, second-ranked 1995 senior, greeted her classmates and audience as she graciously accepted the Salutatorian award. Class history was recorded and presented by April Tickle, class Historian.

At the close of ceremonies when tears were dried, joys were shared, and caps and gowns were neatly packed away, the 1995 graduating class of Bland High School felt fully prepared for the next phase of their Endless Journey.







TOP: Graduates of 1995

BOTTOM LEFT: Bradley Tate and Jessica Turner accept National Scholar/Athlete Awards from Staff Sergeant Goins of the U.S. Army.

ABVOVE: Robbie Morehead delivers Valedictory Address to parents, faculty, and friends.



TOP LEFT: Meagan Morehead, class president, opens program with inspirational thoughts.
CENTER: Class Historian, April Tickle, reads documented class activities for the past 12 years.



TOP RIGHT: As the Salutatorian of the class of 1995, Joanie Lambert, gives the welcome.

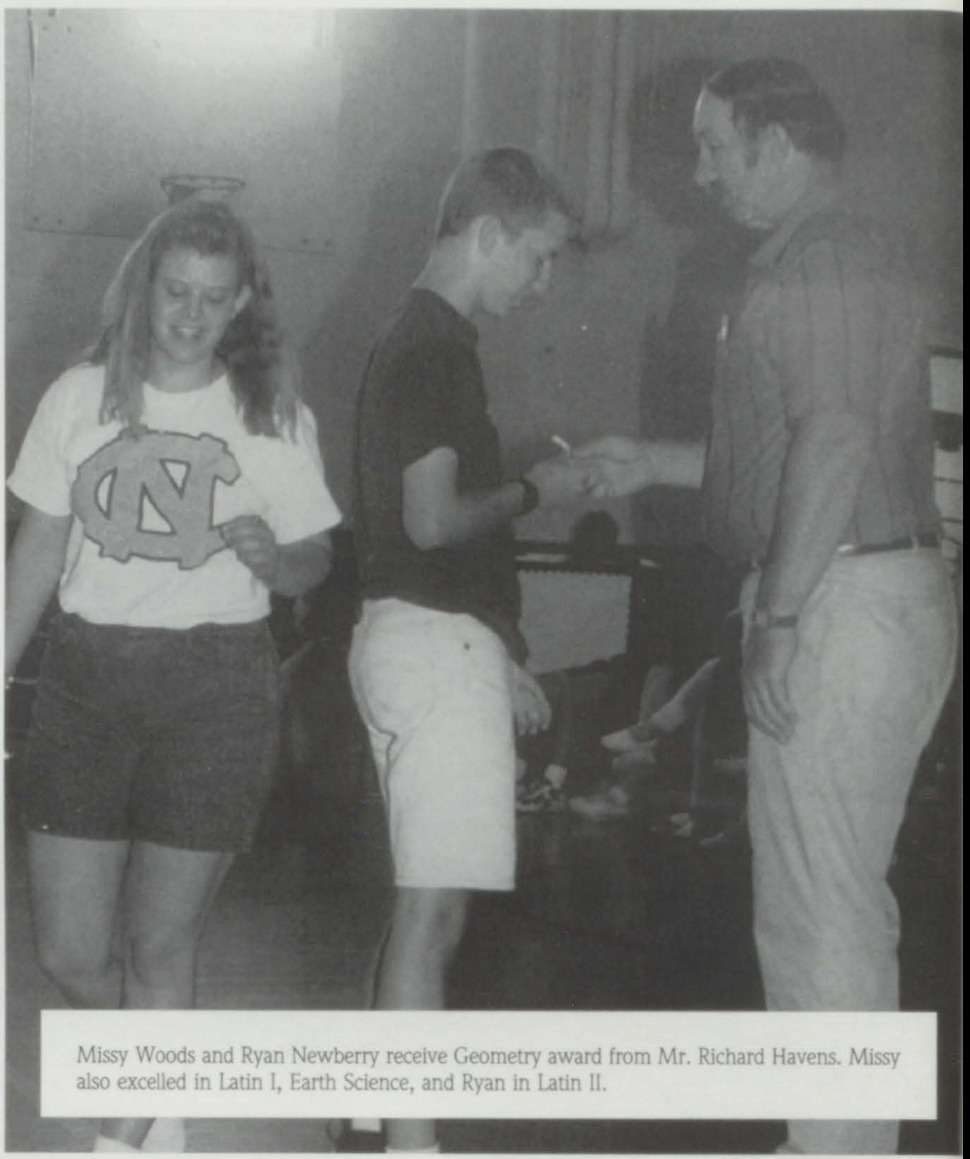
BOTTOM: Crystal Hall receives Creative Writing award from Roger Thompson, principal.





Academic excellence is recognized

May 29, 1995, found students congregating to the gym for Awards Day. This also served as a practice for seniors toward graduation exercises. Following speeches, prophecies, last will, and senior gifts, underclass students were recognized for their academic excellence. Nine students had maintained a 95 or above average for the year; and fifteen, participating in varsity VHSL activity, maintained a 92 or above average. Other recognition was given for extra-curricular activities of MACC, band, yearbook, forensics, sports, and perfect attendance.



Missy Woods and Ryan Newberry receive Geometry award from Mr. Richard Havens. Missy also excelled in Latin I, Earth Science, and Ryan in Latin II.



Mr. Havens presents Life Skills I award to Jaime Newby who also excelled in Biology II.
Receiving awards from Mr. Havens are Billy Davis, Consumer Math; Nathan Winters, Algebra I; Olena Sexton, English 8, Civics, Algebra I, Physical Science; Josh Richardson, English 8, 8th History, Algebra I, Physical Science.





LEFT: Jason Groseclose accepts French I award.

BELOW: Michael Kay Mabe receives Biology I award from Mr. Al Smith. Michael also excelled in Keyboarding, Latin III, Trigonometry, English 10.







LEFT: Josh Richardson accepts Physical Science award from Mr. Al Smith.

RIGHT: Mary Jane Chewning is awarded a medal for Biology I by Mr. Al Smith.

Events other than sports brought satisfaction

Students at Bland High have found satisfaction in competitive events other than sports. These students surpassed the average and mundane tasks in academics and were willing to match their wits against students from other area schools. They met after school during the week to study prepared questions and practice "being quick on the button". Questions were tough and required some research to find the answers and solutions.

Competitive matches began in February on Mondays and Thursdays with district playoffs on a March Saturday. When game scores were close, the anticipation and excitement was as intense as any sporting event. At press time English, Math, and All Around had been doing quite well against their competitors.

MATH MACC TEAM-**Front row:** Mrs. Kay Mabe, Michael Kay Mabe, Jennifer Winters. **Back row:** Nathan Winters, Heath Puckett, Keith Bourne.





RIGHT - SCIENCE MACC TEAM - **Front row:** Olena Sexton, Melissa Richardson, Missy Woods. **Back row:** Michael Fulford, Michael Pruett, Kari Harner.



Scorekeepers Brandon Faulkner and Chris Pauley.



SOCIAL STUDIES MACC TEAM - **Front row:** Virginia Presley, Heather Morehead. **2nd row:** Kelly Sluss, Josh Richardson, April Umbarger. **Back row:** Coach Mr. Richard Havens, Lee Meadows.



BOTTOM CENTER: The match goes on with math teams from Bland and Ft. Chiswell competing. Timer is Casey Johnston, MC is Dave Foltz and helper is Michael Pruett.

ENGLISH MACC TEAM - **Front row:** Stephanie Kelley, Ashley Tate. **2nd row:** Monica Reed, Cindy King. **3rd row:** Casey Johnston, Sarah Bird. **Back row:** Coach Mrs. Bekkie Peery.

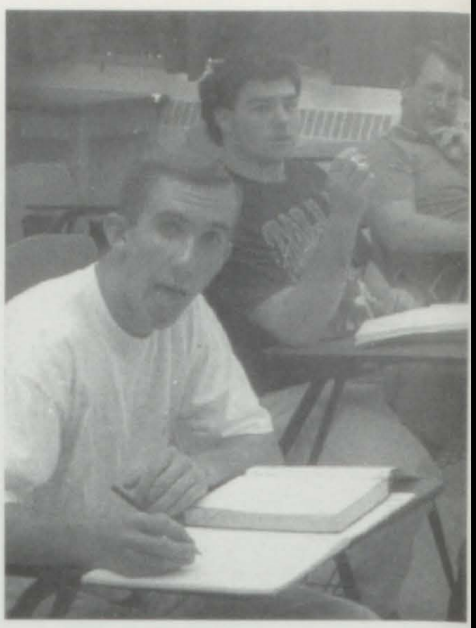






ALL AROUND MACC TEAM - **Front row:** Casey Johnston, Sarah Bird, Missy Woods, Michael Kay Mabe, Josh Richardson. **Back row:** Keith Bourne, Michael Fulford, Michael Pruett, Coach Mr. Al Smith.

Busy Year for Science/Social Studies



With students missing so much school this year because of bad weather, it is remarkable that teachers were able to not only teach the usual curriculum, but also incorporate special activities during the year.

However, in the Elementary ranks, Mrs. Norma Newberry's 5th graders could still be found gathering wildflowers and building Indian villages, and Mrs. Rachel Nelson's 6th graders again made pyramids.

In High School, Mr. Al Smith's Biology classes dissected frogs, and much to the dismay of all Earth Science students, Mr. John Wagoner held his yearly rock tests. It was truly a very busy year for all students in Science and Social Studies.





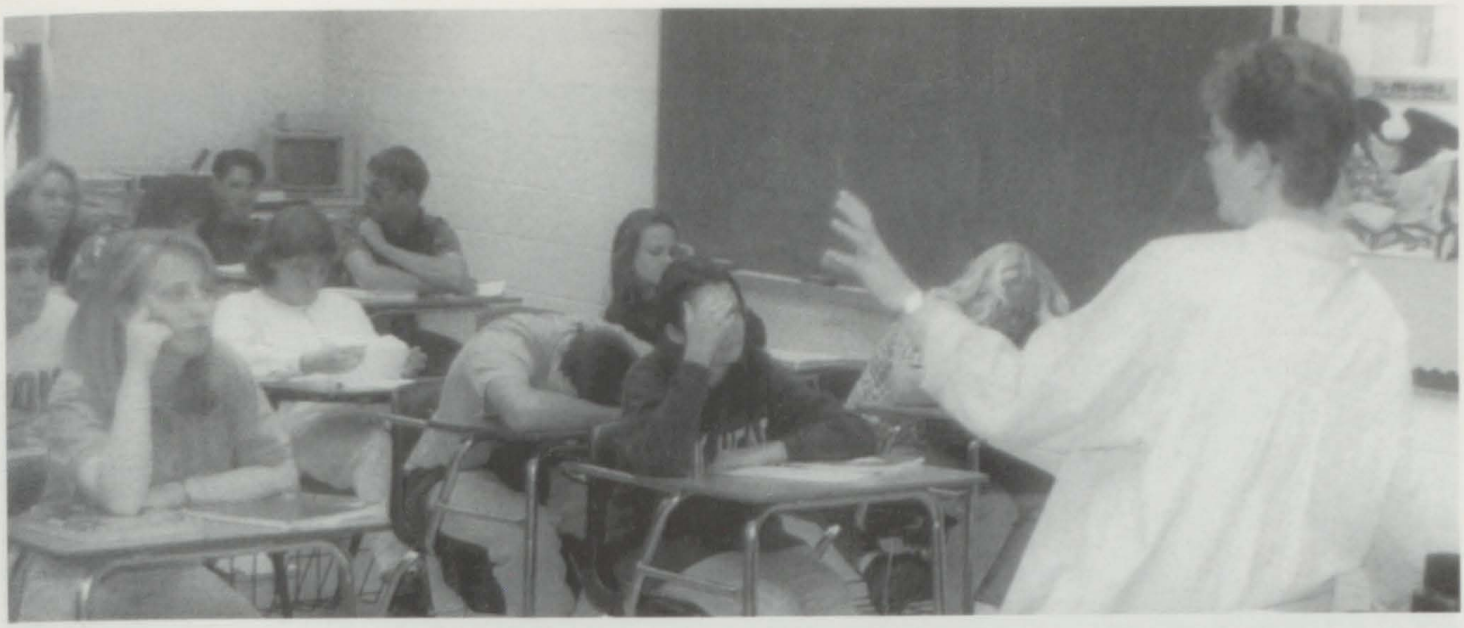


TOP: Mike Munsey and Jody Lambert complete Chemistry assignment under the tutelage of Mr. John Wagoner.

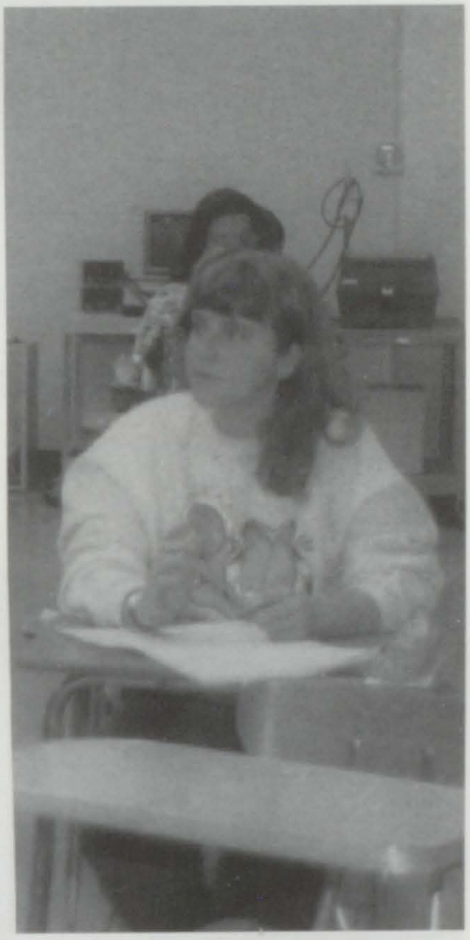
CENTER LEFT: Eighth graders pay close attention to Mr. Al Smith in Physical Science

CENTER RIGHT: Kelly Sluss works diligently on her notebook as classmates Lian Cole, Lila Ramsey, Stuart Morehead, James Faulkner, Chris Pauley, Nathan Justice ham it up.

BOTTOM: Ms. Kadi Woods' 5th grade class.







TOP: Mrs. Deborah Whitt gives instructions in Sociology.

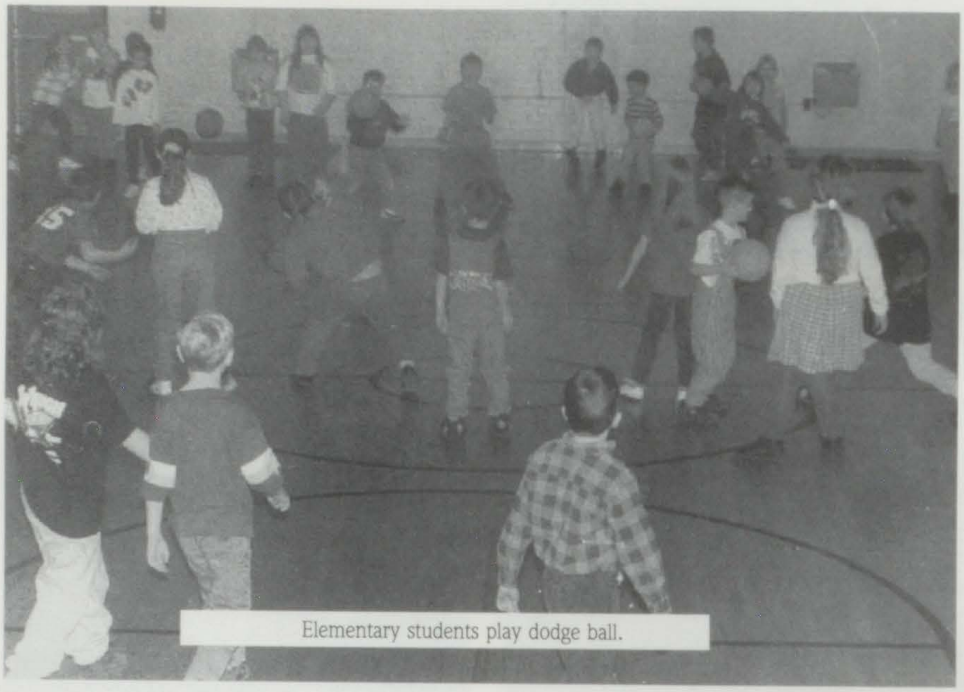
LEFT: Lisa Owens looks up a current event for Government, a regular reguirement for the class.

RIGHT: Hanna Evenson absorbs instruction which she will take home to Norway.

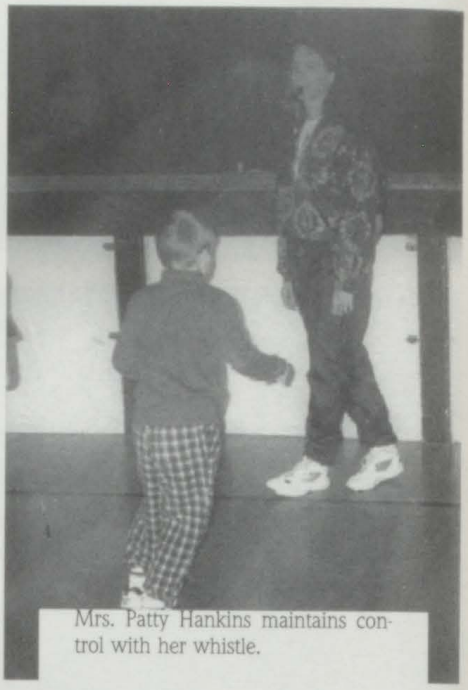
It's not all fun and games

Elementary students with Mrs. Patty Hankins as instructor used the Wagner Auditorium for physical education. Sideline soccer, dodge ball, and relays were just a few of the activities in which grades K-7 engaged. For secondary students driver's ed. physical fitness tests, and health remained a part of P.E. classes. Volleyball and basketball could often be observed being played as well.

With the addition of a new math teacher, students still found themselves being faced with mind straining problems in the various math classes. Mr. John Chmara, along with Mrs. Kay Mabe and Mr. Rich Hankins supplied secondary students with an assortment of math skills. For those 7th graders choosing to take Pre-Algebra, Mr. Fred Simpkins provided the instruction.

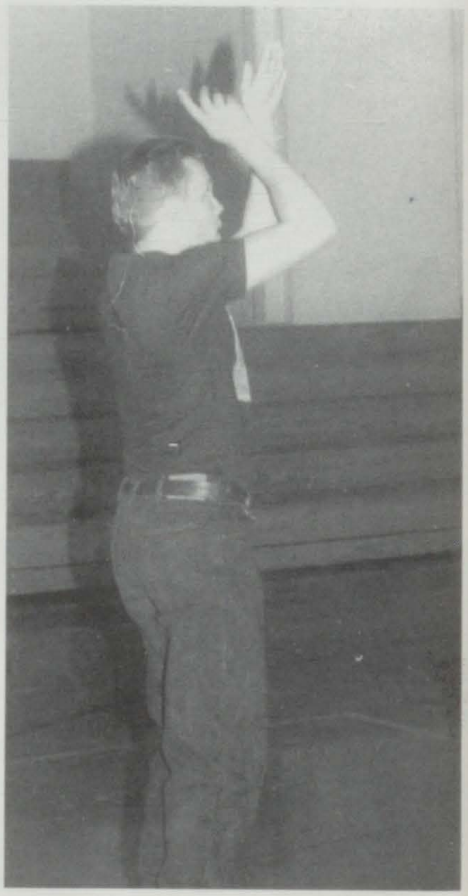


Elementary students play dodge ball.



Mrs. Patty Hankins maintains control with her whistle.

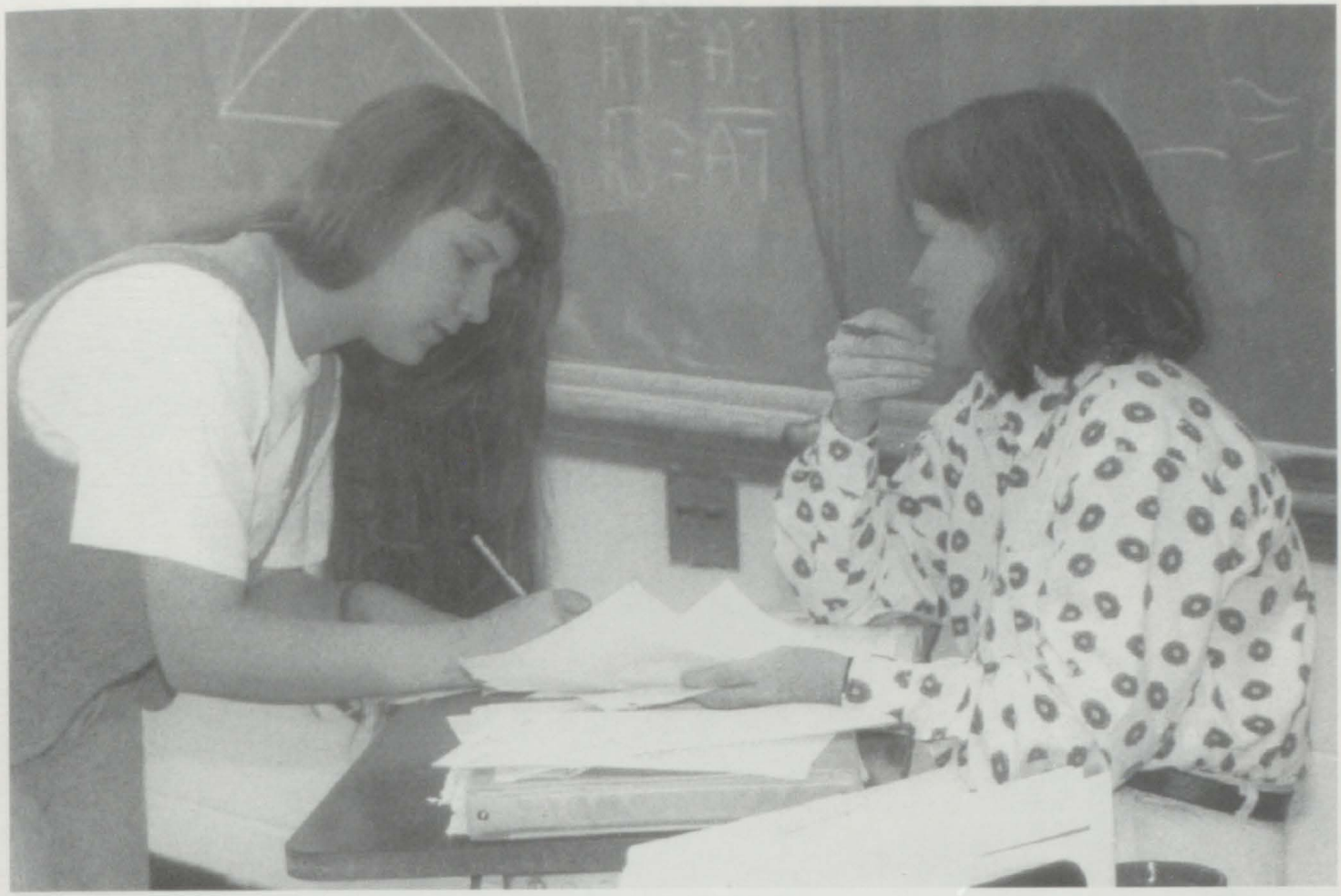




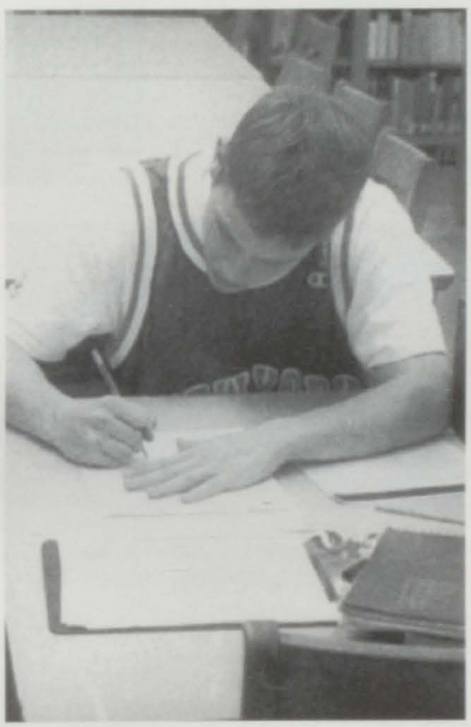
ABOVE: Ms. LaMoore Muncy checks papers as Kelly Dunn watches the play on the floor.

RIGHT: Jeff Brunk sinks a two-pointer.

Olena Sexton receives assistance on a difficult problem from Mrs. Kay Mabe.





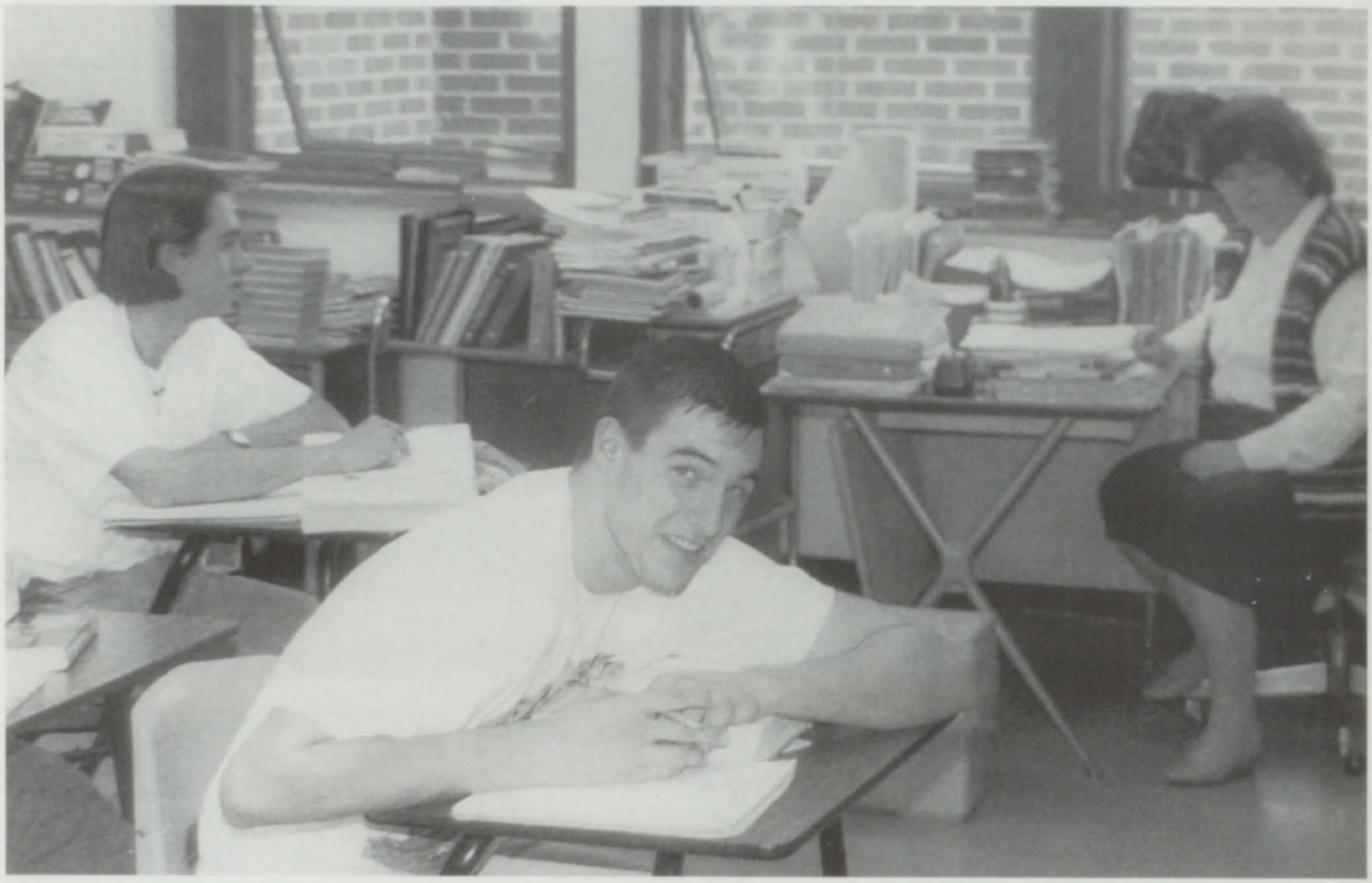


LEFT: Math class works in a Round Robin style.

RIGHT: Paul Lindamood completes a math test.

"What did you say?"

Talk to us in English, French, or even Latin. We have all of these languages at Bland High School. English, the "easiest" of all the languages was taught by Ms. Janet Faulkner. French instruction was offered by Mr. Darrell Burnett, and Mrs. Bekkie Peery. Latin, (the electronic language) was facilitated by Ms. Jerri Harman. Students often found themselves asking the teachers "what did you say?"





TOP:Smokey Parmenter a senior at Bland High School works hard in Ms. Janet Faulkners' English class.

ABOVE:Kelly King and Andrew Schoeneman in Latin.

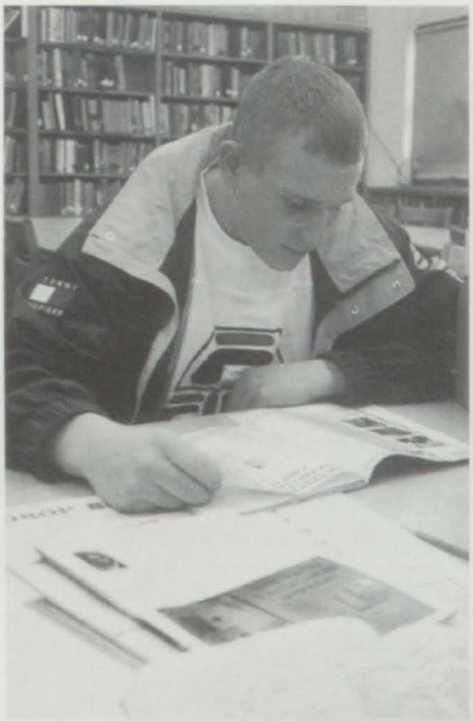
RIGHT:Mrs. Bekkie Peery teaches her first year students French.



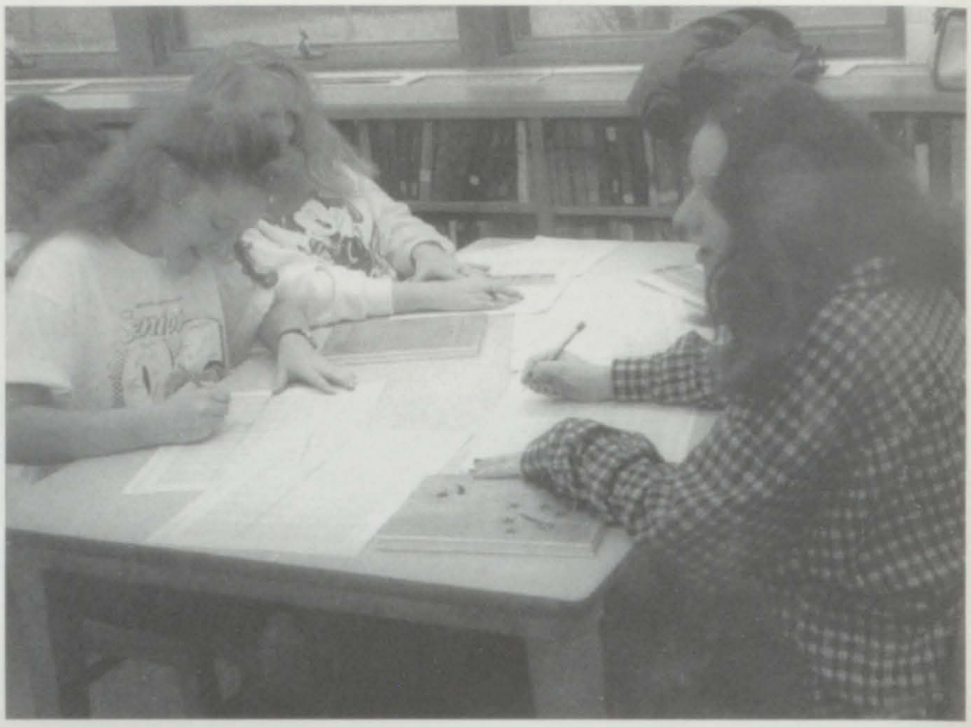


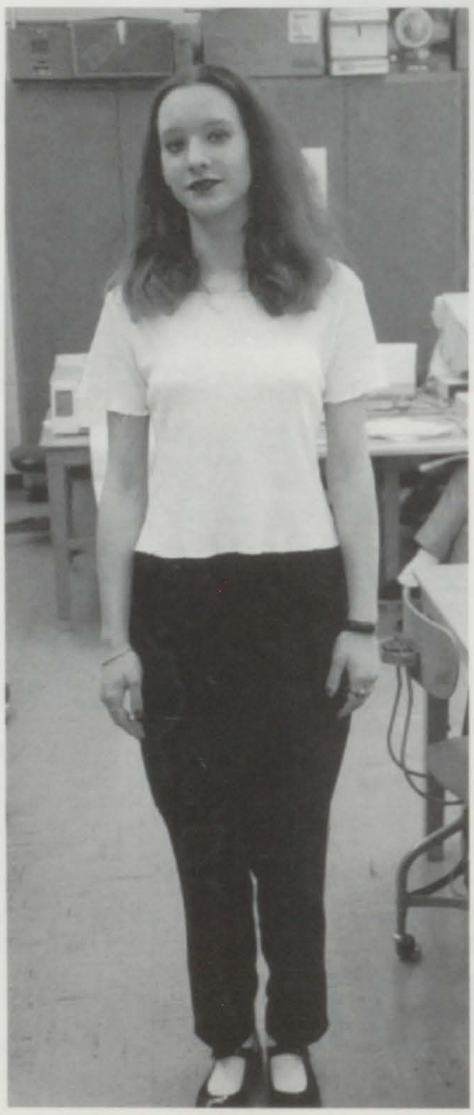
Organizations

BELOW: Eric Miller,Yearbook Editor ("Chief"), hard at work researching world events. Eric's job was to designate work assignments and oversee production.



BELOW: Melanie Talbert, Melissa French, and Rachel Munsey design layouts for the yearbook. This was the first step in the production of a double page spread. From the drawing table, these young ladies moved to the computer where the pages were put onto a shipment disk.







ABOVE: **Yearbook staff. Front Row:** Cheryl Brunk, Melanie Talbert, and Melissa French. **2nd row:** Ryan Newberry, Debbie Munsey, and Ashley Havens. **Top Row:** Elizabeth Newberry and Sandra Harman.

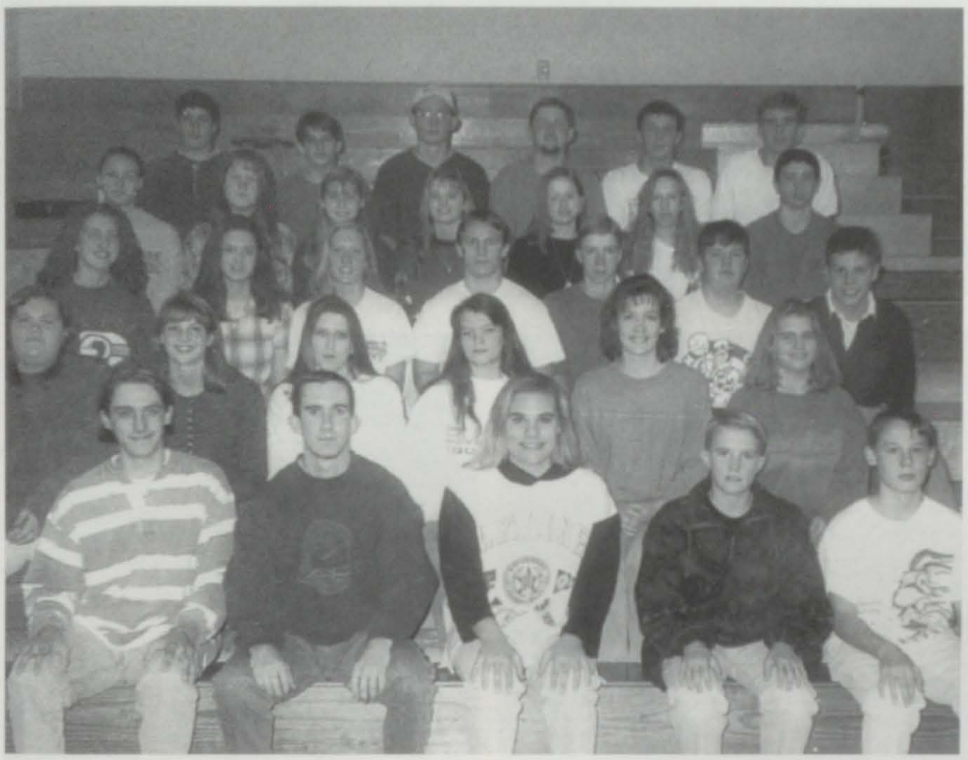
LEFT: Rachel Munsey " late-comer " to the class picked up on skills easily.

Photo Journalism and French

History was made during the school year 1995-96. A new class was formed and fifth period Photo Journalism became the first class at Bland High School to receive credit for photography and journalistic skills applied to the production of the high school yearbook. The first class consisted of: Melissa French, Eric Miller, Rachel Munsey, Melanie Talbert, and Jamie Nunn. There were two acting yearbook advisers. Mrs. Elizabeth Newberry served as the veteran consultant and photographer/developer and Mrs. Sandra Harman offered the class instruction while also learning along with the students the business of yearbook production. The newness eventually faded into understanding and everyday applicable work habits for both students and teachers.

The French classes kept occupied while not only learning a foreign language; but also staying active raising money for their trip to Canada. This group traveled to the province of Quebec during the week of April 26 - May 2. Approximately 14 students made the trip where they were exposed to a new country and a new culture. They visited Laval University and also toured the La Citadel, the largest fortification in North America. Many were excited with the evening ferry ride across the St. Lawrence for an illuminated view of the Quebec skyline. Others were interested in the shops at Mt. Morency Falls and outdoor bread baking ovens. Another point of interest was the tour of the Canadian Parliament. Students returned with an appreciation of not only the language but the country as well.

BELOW: **French Front Row:**Sam Tickle, Mike Munsey,Pachess Umbarger, Aaron Pauley, Brian Faulkner**2nd row:**Allison Sheets, Caise Pruitt, Amy Hanshew, Leisa Hagy, Debbie Munsey, Whitney Gamble**3rd row:**Ashley Havens, Leslie Carroll, Kelly Dunn, J.B. Lambert, Brent Tate, Josh Breedlove, Paul Lindamood**4th row:** Mandy Jones, Monica Reed, Ashley Tate, Susan Stanley, Laura Clifton, Misty Wiley, Derrick Dehart**Top Row:** Jeremy Dillow, Michael Fulford, Keith Bourne, Ben Chewning, Jason Groseclose, Jason Hancock.







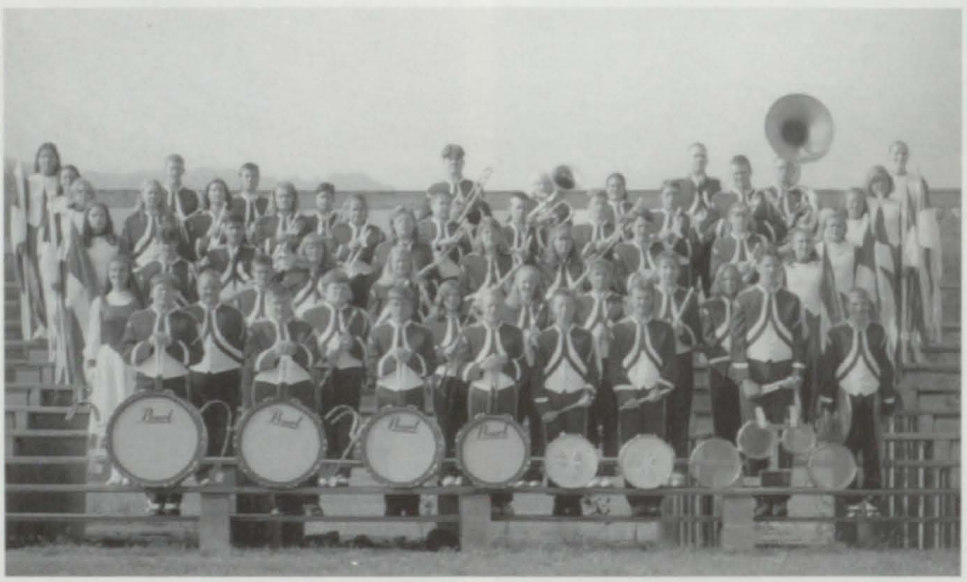
ABOVE: Ben Chewning shows astonishment during French class.
LEFT: Erin Thompson has fun during French class.

Camps helped Band stay competitive

The Bland County Band kicked off another exciting season with it's annual band camp the last week in July. This allowed practice for the upcoming football games. Three times a year the band members attended a marching camp which allowed them to compete for trophies and other awards. School preformances were also held in both the winter and the spring. The band members participated in the Wytheville Christmas parade. Competition sent them on the road to North Carolina for marching events along with three marching festivals in George Wythe, Patrick County, and Forbush N.C.

In addition to on the road appearances, the band performed with music and formations at home football games. The acquisition of new uniforms added to their impressive image.

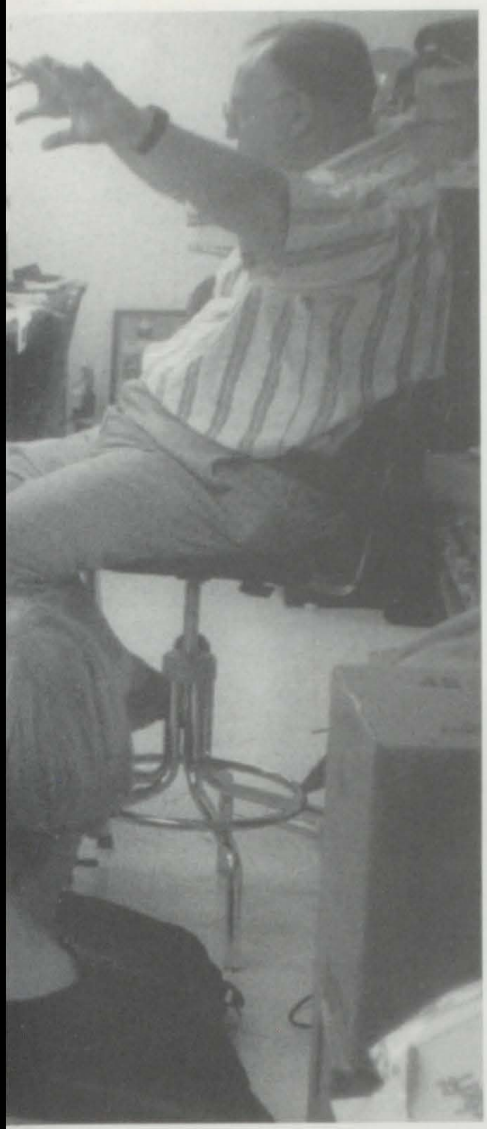




BLAND COUNTY BAND-Front row: Charlie Stiltner, Chad Brewer, Shane Thompson, Mark McKee, Kent McPeak, Brook Dillow, Chris Berg, Curtis Brewer. **2nd row:** Tonya Bradshaw, Kelly Sluss, Michael Lambert, Crystal Hancock, Melissa Leedy, Renee Gross, Kelly Lambert. **3rd row:** Ryan Leftwich, Heather Morehead. **4th row:** Courtney Simpkins, Austin White, Constance Whitt, Crystal Stiltner, Jennifer Winters, Shannell Ball, Jamy Nunn, Shandra Ball. **5th row:** Terra Bradshaw, Kathy Starks, Tracey Dye, Virginia Presley, Carl Hess, Nathan Winters, Joe Meadows, Eric Thompson, Michael Muncy. **Back row:** Lee Meadows, Nathan Justice, Chase Thomas, Andrew Schoeneman, Sarah Bird, Tonia White, William Heighton, Benjamin Leighton. **Flag Girls (left side):** Katie Muncy, Christa Winesett, Sarah Boone, Tracy Ball. **Flag Girls (right side):** Misty Balas, Ashleigh Sarver, Courtney Brizendine, Jami Price, Sarah French. **Not Pictured:** Amy Kitts.



During football half-time band performance is led by flag girl, Sarah Boone.

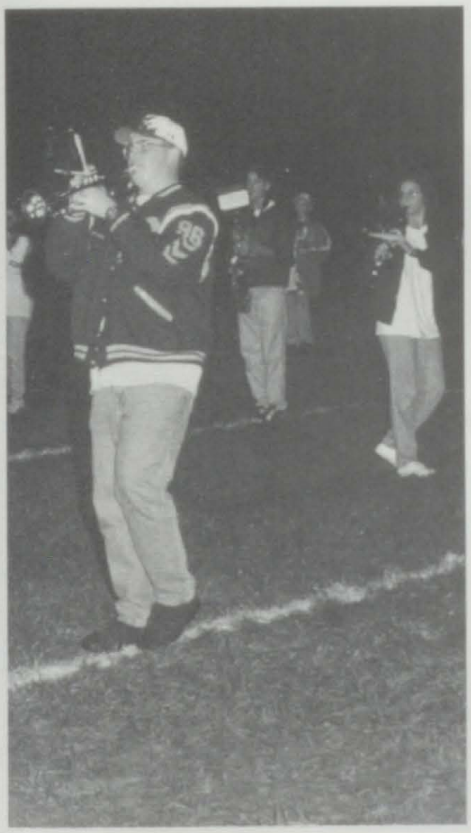


TOP CENTER: Leader, Mr. Bob Correll, directs members during class time.

INTERMEDIATE BAND-Front row: Kristen Songer, Brandon Anders, Jodi Crabtree, Denita Harden, Eisle Havens, Samantha Bird. 2nd row: David Wolcott, Bryan Simms, Zachary Pauley, Amber Hutchins, Andy Sarver. Back row: John Clemons, Chase Thomas, Shane Thompson, Benjamin May, Curtis Brewer, Seth Baker.









CENTER: Band performers are Michael Muncy, Virginia Presley, Carl Hess, and Tracey Dye.

BOTTOM LEFT: Michael Muncy and Renee Gross in formation during half-time festivities.

BOTTOM RIGHT-BEGINNING BAND-Front row: Serina Morris, Amanda Scott, Heather Wright, Bridget Stiltner, Christopher Harman.
2nd row: Christopher Viar, Scottie Clemons, Zachary Breedlove, Brandon Webb.
Back row: Jonathan Cook, Dustin Davis, Kelley Blankenship.



TOP LEFT: *Shutterbugs* work at ballgame concession stand - April Blankenship, John Wagoner, Kelly Woods, Sondra Wolfe, Missy Woods.

CENTER: Members meet after school and make plans for the year. Field trips were discussed and decisions made for the spring. Checking the map for distances for a trip to Staunton are Faye Wolfe, Mr. John Wagoner, Sondra Wolfe, Rob Kegley, and April Blankenship.

BOTTOM LEFT: Trip to Natural Bridge in 1995 - Meagan Morehead, Tanya Ramsey, Cheryl Brunk, Cyndi McGrady, Stephanie Ferrarri, Marie Dotson, Shannon Enoch, Joanne Brumsey, Nikki Howell.
PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB-**Front row:** Mr. John Wagoner, adviser; Kelly Tickle, president; Anita French, vice president; Leisa Hagy, secretary/treasurer; Ms. Elizabeth Newberry, adviser. **2nd row:** Amanda Umbarger, Cheryl Brunk, Sondra Wolfe, Nikki Howell, Jenny Walker, Rob Kegley. **Back row:** Faye Wolfe, Kelly Woods, Melanie Talbert, Marie Dotson, Missy Woods, April Blankenship.

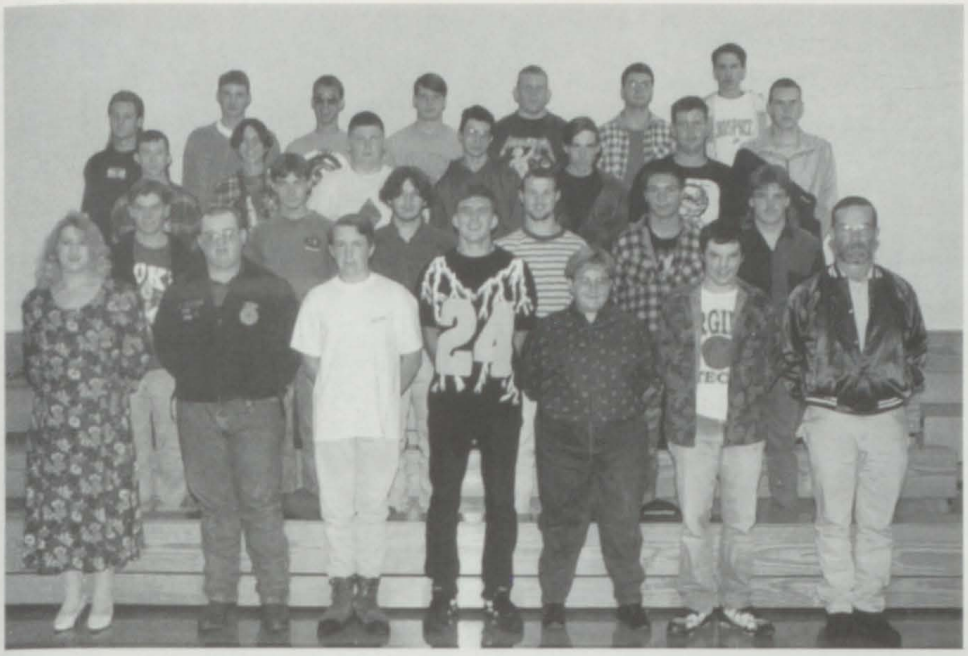






Involvement with nature

The FFA and Photograhy Clubs dealt with nature. The Photography Club journeyed to natural sites, taking scenery pictures and capturing the beauty of the outdoors onto film. A display and contest of their efforts was held in the spring. The FFA participated in such activities as cutting tobacco and visiting a prison for a drug awarness program, and competed in product judging contests.









TOP RIGHT-FFA THIRD, FOURTH AND FIFTH YEAR MEMBERS - **Front Row:** B.J Crabtree, president; Jim Bob Penley, vice president; Kris Blankenship, secretary; Jason Hancock, treasurer; Becky Penley, reporter; Mathew Brunk, sargeant-at-arms; Bill Crabtree, advisor. **2nd Row:** J.R. Wolfe, Jeremy Blankenship, Kary Taylor, Todd Morehead, Jody Neel, Andy Bruce. **3rd Row:** Isaac Tyerar, Evan Hall, David Neel, Benjamin Davis, Ronnie Wolfe, Charlie Corder, Brandon Sink. **4th Row:** Brook Dillow, Eric Wimmer, John Kelly Thompson, Chris Beaman, Eric Miller, Joe Repass, Wesley Quinn.

CENTER LEFT: Aaron Pauley enters vegetables at the Bland County Fair.

CENTER RIGHT-FIRST/SECOND YEAR MEMBERS- **Front row:** Jeb Hodges, Aaron Pauley, Kent McPeak ,Becky Penley, Billy Floyd, Nehemiah Hickman. **2nd Row:** Weston Patton, Stuart Morehead, T.J. Thompson, Miranda Jones, Kelly Woods, Amber Simmons, Kellen Shewey , Randy Bearrington. **3rd Row:** Joshwa Lester, Ricky Sarver, Ted Sparks, Phillip Meadows, David Olinger, D.J. Belcher, Josh Gusler, Josh Faulkner. **4th Row:** Josiah Smith, James Faulkner, Robert Newberry, Jeremiah Tate, Clinton Hagy, Daniel Thompson, Jeff Brunk, Mark Davidson.
RIGHT:Eric Miller, Todd Morehead, J.R. Wolfe, Joe Repass, Matthew Brunk, Jody Neel,put up a tent for The Festival of Leaves.

RIGHT: Issac Tyeryar gleefully collects monies from food sales during FBLA Snow Court. This very active club begins in the early fall and raises money for many worthwhile projects.



FBLA VICA 4-H Activities

Under the leadership of President Becky Penley, the Bland FBLA members were busy bees. They sponsored the 1996 Snow Court drive and collected donations for Project ASK. Somewhere in between all of the rush, members prepared for competitions in Pulaski and raised money for their trip to Reston later in the spring.

Some other clubs that happened to be busy bees were the Bland and Mechanicsburg Senior 4-H Clubs. Some of the members who participated in an exchange with Wisconsin, went on a weekend trip to Richmond, judged 4-H speeches, or acted as junior leaders at afternoon workshops or at summer camp. Monthly meetings and community projects went right along with the other happenings.

VICA (Vocational Industrial Clubs of America), under the watchful eye of Mrs. Carolyn Bane, followed their motto and prepared for the future ahead of them. These students worked hard at their jobs and gained many useful experiences for their future.



CENTER: Enjoying their annual pizza party are Michael Kay Mabe, Sharon Shewey, Leslie Gordon, Laura Clifton, Isaac Tyeryar, Adam Faulkner, Jim Bob Penley.



BOTTOM -FBLA -**Front row:** Becky Penley, president; John C. Thompson, vice-president; Debbie Munsey, secretary; Cheryl Brunk, reporter; Amy Hanshew, historian; Jacob Scott, parliamentarian. **2nd row:** J. B. Lambert, Adam Faulkner, Laura Clifton, Whitney Gamble, Kelly Dunn. **3rd row:** Sharon Shewey, Isaac Tyeryar, Christina St. Clair, Casey Johnston, Leslie Gordon, Leslie Carroll. **4th row:** Jamie Dunn, Rae Romano, Ashley Havens, Stephanie Kelley, Brooke Kitts. **Back row:** Ryan Newberry, Jim Bob Penley, Andy Selfe, Heath Puckett. *Not pictured Michael Kay Mabe, treasurer.*

VICA - **Front row:** Brook Dillow, Sarah Shewey, Lisa Owens, Linda Prater, Samantha Thompson. **2nd row:** Jody Neel, Jeremy Reed, Jimmy Pike, J. R. Wolfe, Charlie Corder. **3rd row:** Matthew Brunk, Andy Bruce, Jason Kidd, Seth Roseberry, Joe Repass, Eric Wimmer. **Back row:** Jeremiah Clemons, Jeremy Blankenship, Darrell Wellman.







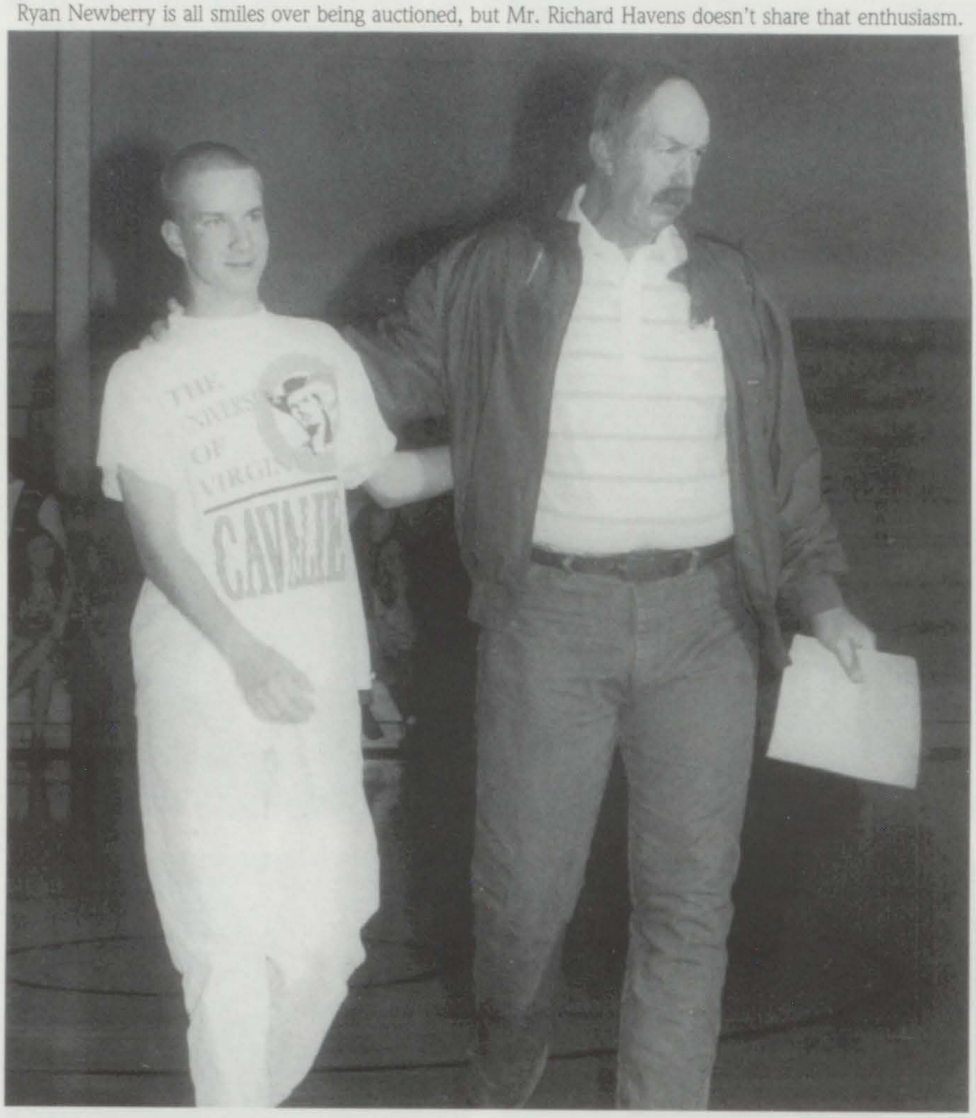
CENTER LEFT - MECHANICSBURG 4-H - **Front row:** Ryan Newberry, president; Susan Stanley, vice-president; Sondra Wolfe, secretary; Sandra Melvin, treasurer. **2nd row:** Faye Wolfe, Mandy Blankenship, Sara King, Kelli Hall. **Back row:** April Nelson, Debbie Munsey, Leslie Gordon, Lian Cole, Laura Clifton.

CENTER: Erin Pruett gets a "face job" by Erin Johnson during Festival of Leaves festivities.

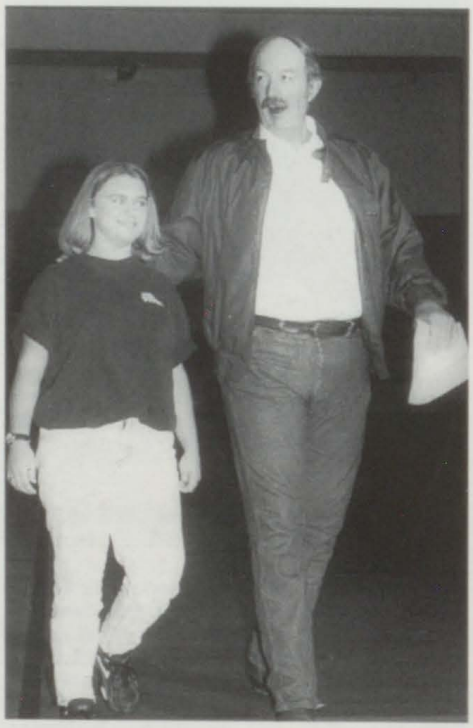


BOTTOM - BLAND 4-H - **Front row:** Hanne Evensen, president; Erin Johnson, vice-president; Stella Joyce, secretary; Pachess Umbarger, treasurer; James Payne, reporter; Ashley Tate, Jessica Kidd. **2nd row:** Cindy King, Kelli King, Erin Thompson, Debbie Munsey, Cicely Havens, Brian Faulkner. **3rd row:** Kari Harner, Olena Sexton, Stephanie Kelley, Monica Reed, Amy Viar. **4th row:** Rae Romano, Ashley Havens, Casey Johnston, Shelly Payne, Cheryl Brunk. **Back row:** Mike Munsey, Amy Hanshew, Smokey Parmenter, Brandon Faulkner, Rob Kegley.

Ryan Newberry is all smiles over being auctioned, but Mr. Richard Havens doesn't share that enthusiasm.



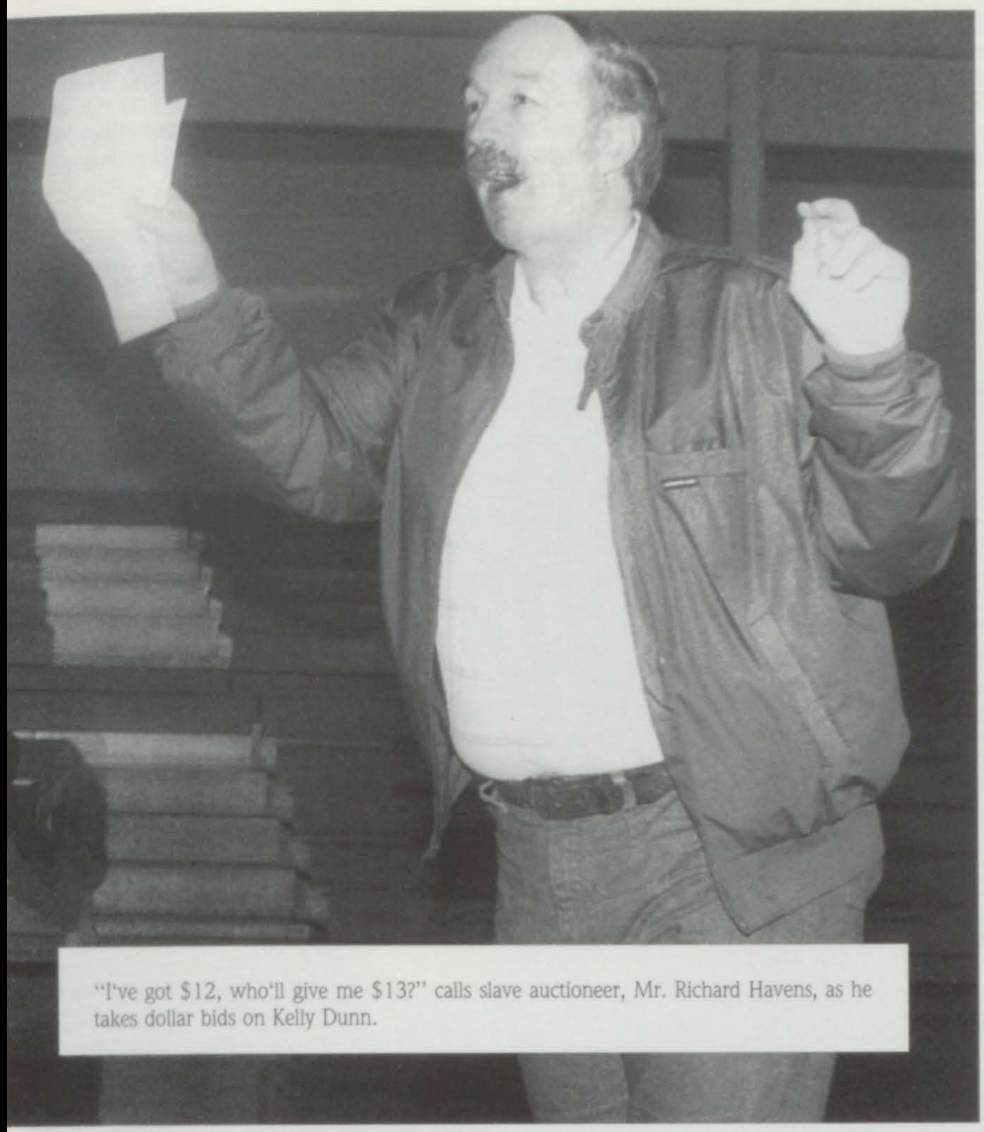




Mr. Richard Havens, auctioneer, escorts Whitney Gamble to the auction block.



SENIOR BETA MEMBERS-**Front row:** Becky Penley, Erin Thompson, Stephanie Kelley, Kelly Dunn, Whitney Gamble, Sheri Blankenship, John C. Thompson, president, Derrick DeHart, vice-president. **2nd row:** Misty Wiley, Amy Hanshew, Holly Pauley, Rae Romano, Casey Johnston, Debbie Munsey, Amanda Umbarger, Leslie Carroll, Hanne Evensen. **3rd row:** Leslie Kelley, B. J. Crabtree, Mike Munsey, Ryan Newberry, Pachess Umbarger, Jaime Newby, Sam Tickle, Ashley Havens. **4th row:** Cindy King, Amanda Brown, Missy Woods, Jamie McMillan, Jody Lambert, Michael Pruett, Jacob Scott. **Back row:** Lee Meadows, Jamie Dunn, Jeremy Dillow, Smokey Parmenter, Michael Muncy, Jason Groseclose. *Not pictured Michael Kay Mabe, secretary-treasurer.*



"I've got $12, who'll give me $13?" calls slave auctioneer, Mr. Richard Havens, as he takes dollar bids on Kelly Dunn.

Betas launch journey with tapping

Betas launched their year's journey with a tapping assembly for prospective members. Those students in grades 9-12 with a previous yearly average of 90 were eligible for either Junior or Senior Beta. Following the tapping, new Senior Betas were auctioned as slaves to students or faculty with a maximum price of $25. Both clubs held concession stands to raise funds.

Advisor Ms. Janet Faulkner, serving as State Beta Sponsor for the next two years, said the Senior Betas provided two service projects for the year. They delivered fruit to the elderly in nursing homes and purchased gold stoles for their graduates.

Senior Betas also prepared a banner for the convention which was held in Williamsburg in the spring. They sold fruit and did a marathon fair concession to help pay convention expenses.

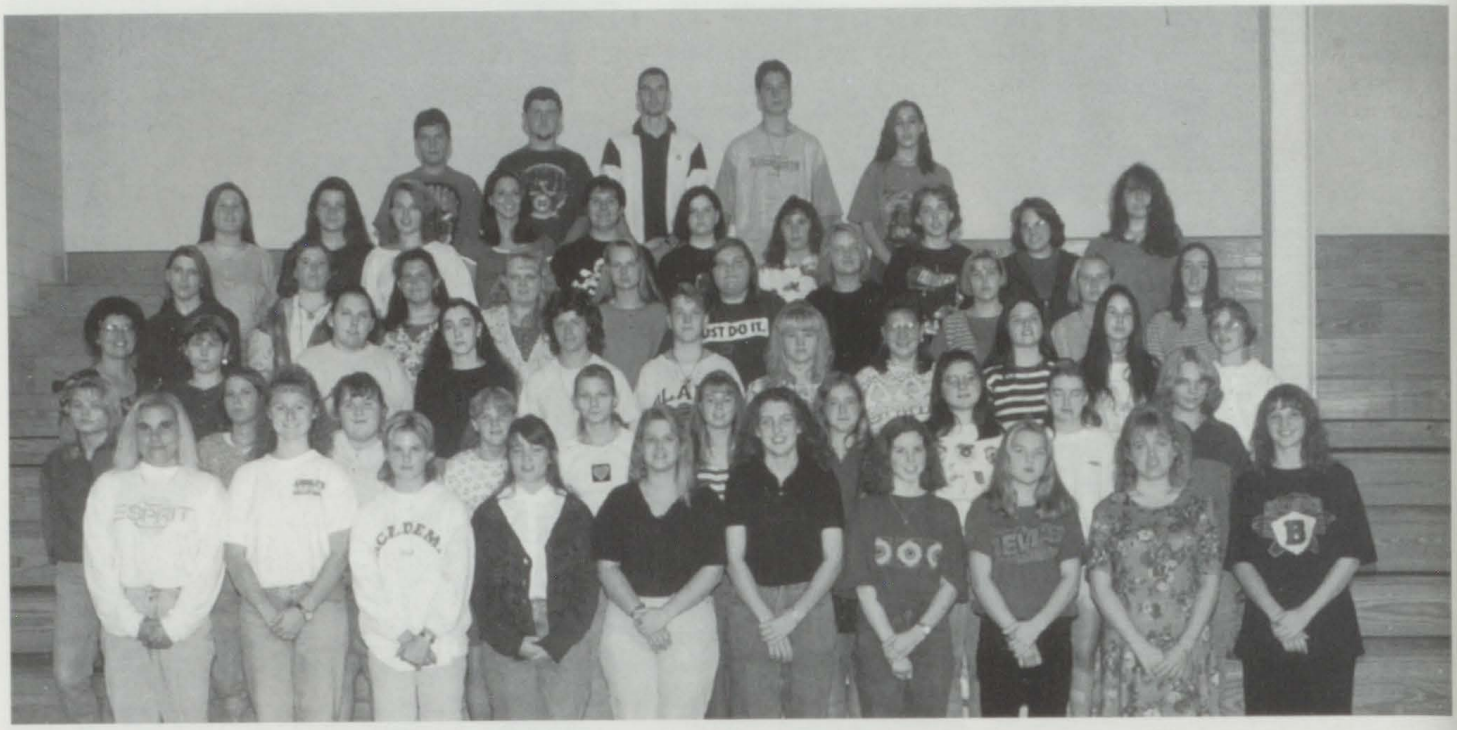


Stephanie Kelley registers astonishment at the bidding and bidders.



JUNIOR BETA MEMBERS-Front row: Olena Sexton, president; Erin Johnson, vice-president; Kari Harner, secretary; Leslie Gordon, treasurer. **2nd row:** Laura Clifton, Cicely Havens, Jessica Umbarger, Reneé Gross, Ashleigh Sarver. **Back row:** Joe Meadows, Nathan Winters, Heath Puckett, Josh Richardson.

FHA-Front row: Pachess Umbarger, president; Melanie Talbert, vice-president; Amanda Umbarger, 2nd vice-president; Leisa Hagy, secretary; Missy Woods, reporter; Ashley Havens, treasurer; Heather Stiltner, Jessica Umbarger, recreation leaders; Anita French, chaplain; Casie Pruitt, sargeant-at-arms. **2nd row:** Nikki Howell, Sarah Smith, Lila Ramsey, Dawn Wright, Lian Cole, Jessica Kidd, Crystal Hancock, Amy Viar, April Nelson, Stephanie Ferrarri. **3rd row:** Ms. Sylvia Williams, advisor; Jenny Walker, Sarah Shewey, Jamie Newby, Nikki Elliott, Sandra Wolfe, Dana Jesse, Shelly Payne, Katie Munsey, Mindy Wyllie, Allesha Bourne. **4th row:** Amy Hanshew, Faye Wolfe, Cheryl Brunk, Missy French, Sandra Melvin, Allison Sheets, Jessica Crawford, Sarah Coffman, Stacey Miller, Lisa Owens. **5th row:** Cindy King, Jamie McMillan, Amanda Brown, Marie Dotson, Kari Harner, Erin Thompson, Cicely Havens, Elizabeth Whittaker, Sharon Shewey, Carey Berg. **Back row:** Jason Hagy, Ben Chewning, Smokey Parmenter, Chris Berg, Jamie Goss.





SCA-Front Row: Ashley Havens, Rae Romano, Sheri Blankenship, Leslie Kelly. **2nd Row:** Holly Pauly, Michael Kay Mabe, Debbie Munsey, Whitney Gamble, Stephanie Kelley. **3rd Row:** Michael Pruett, Brooke Kitts, Sarah Smith, Leslie Carroll. **4th Row:** Pachess Umbarger, Mike Munsey, Jody Lambert, Brent Tate.

Enthusiastic people created journey

Many high school groups were filled with enthusiastic people and energetic activities which filled the participants' time and brought smiles to their faces. Three such groups were FHA, SCA and Upward Bound. Year round activites, such as the Miss Bland High and a cake walk, filled the time of FHA; while time and energy enveloped SCA's Snow Court money raising. Upward Bound continued annually in their studies, earning money, and improving the school and community.

TOP: Pachess Umbarger presents a delighted Casie Pruitt with a complemantary gift for 1st runner-up.

BOTTOM LEFT-Upward Bound-Front Row:Melanie Talbert, Becky Penley, Jamie Goss, Pachess Umbarger. 2nd Row: Erin Thompson, Oleana Sexton, Jessica Kidd, April Umbarger. 3rd Row: Chris Berg, Carey Berg, Amy Viars.







Melanie Talbert speaks to the judges in the Miss Bland High Pagent.

Forensic competition hosted at Bland High

The 1996 season held new challenges for the newspaper staff as the Rocket Rapp took on a new look. Meeting deadlines, giving the latest scoop on gossip and providing a preview of upcoming events kept staff members on their toes. Serving as co-editors were Cheryl Brunk and Melissa Richardson.

Excitement and tension mounted as February 22 drew near and Forensics members prepared to host the district competition at Bland High. Finding enough spaces for events proved to be a challenge, but all's well that ends well. It certainly ended well for Bland when they placed second in the district. Thirteen members advanced to regional competition while six of these received a first place honor. First place went to Debbie Munsey, Stephanie Kelley, Leslie Carroll, Leslie Kelley, Leisa Hagy, Michael Kay Mabe.



Josh Richardson pores over magazines while preparing for Extemporaneous Speaking.





TOP: FORENSICS COMPETITORS - **Front row:** Jenny Walker, Sharon Shewey, Michael Kay Mabe, Laura Clifton. **2nd row:** Melissa Richardson, Leisa Hagy, Stephanie Kelley, Leslie Kelley, April Blankenship. **3rd row:** Josh Richardson, Olena Sexton, Stella Joyce, Keith Bourne. **Back row:** Michael Pruett, Ashley Havens, Debbie Munsey, Leslie Gordon, Reneé Gross. *Not pictured Mrs. Chris Bird, coach.*

NEWSPAPER STAFF - **Front row:** Rae Romano, Amy Hanshew, Cheryl Brunk, Mrs. Chris Bird. **2nd row:** Leslie Kelley, Sheri Blankenship, Stacey Miller, Amanda Blankenship, Stephanie Ferrarri. **3rd row:** Kelli King, Carey Berg, Allesha Bourne, Mindy Wyllie. **4th row:** Casie Pruitt, Jessica Umbarger, Jessica Crawford, Tina Pauley, Sara King. **5th row:** Nikki Howell, Stephanie Kelley, Leslie Carroll, Sarah Smith, Ashley Havens. **Back row:** Josh Richardson, Lian Cole, Dawn Wright. *Not pictured Melissa Richardson.*



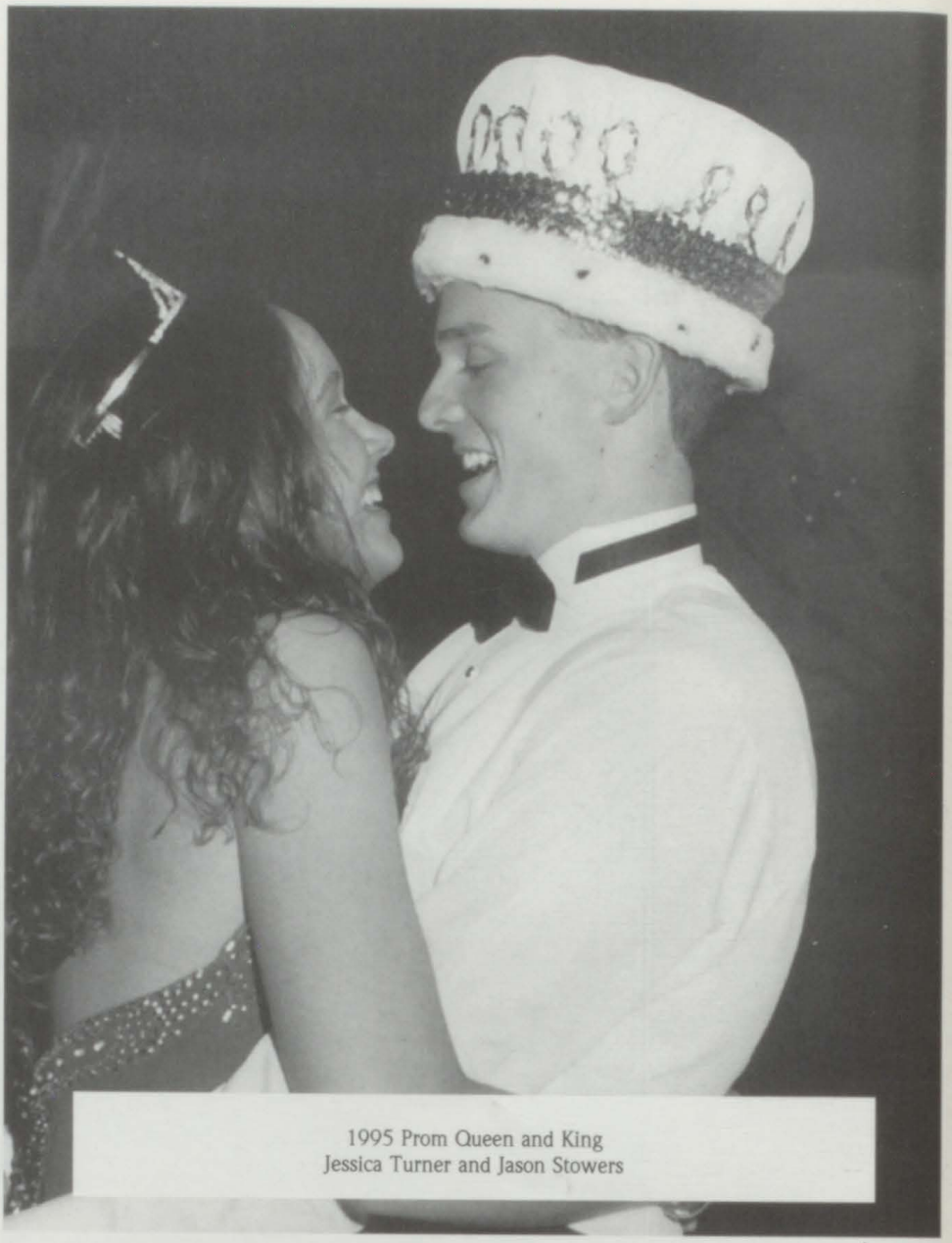
Student Life

A time remembered

The night was surely a time to remember with sparkling gowns showing off the beautiful ladies and tuxes accentuating the gentlemen escorts. Smiles touched the faces of all of the couples journeying into the prom's lavishly decorated gym. Excited juniors had worked months before to raise money for the special night of the prom.

(continued on next page)





1995 Prom Queen and King
Jessica Turner and Jason Stowers





CENTER LEFT: For Wesley Strock and Rae Romano close dancing is enchanting.

BOTTOM LEFT: Robbie Chewing and Kelli King 'Can Feel the Love Tonight'.

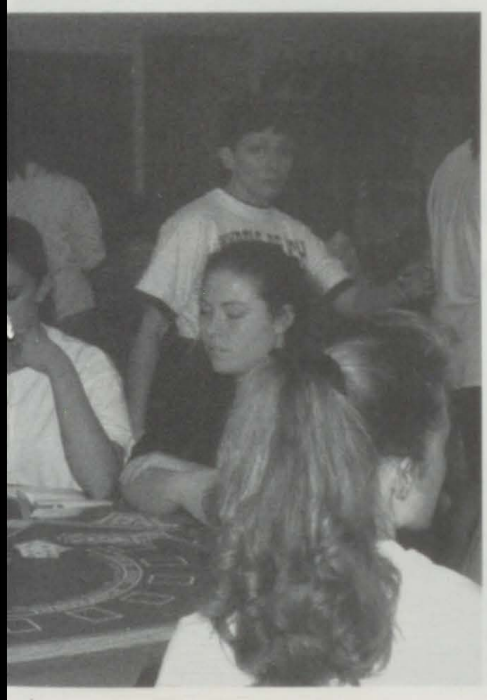
RIGHT: Jamie Kidd and Melanie Talbert wonder how much they lost.

(continued from previous page)

They chose the theme of "Can You Feel the Love Tonight" and decided on decorations to suit the memorable event. The 1995 Prom of Bland High was on its way to being completed. The only thing remaining was the fun that was surely to occur that night. Jessica Turner and Jason Stowers were crowned Queen and King as smiles brightened in agreement that they were the beautiful couple of the night. The remembrance of the night would reflect in memories for years to come.









TOP: Group dancing brings smiles.
CENTER LEFT: Sam Tickle and Pachess Umbarger dance the night away.
BOTTOM RIGHT: Good ol' country boys, Mr. Richard Havens and Mr. Roger Thompson.

Cora Ramsey sings Lori Morgan's "What Part of No Don't You Understand?"





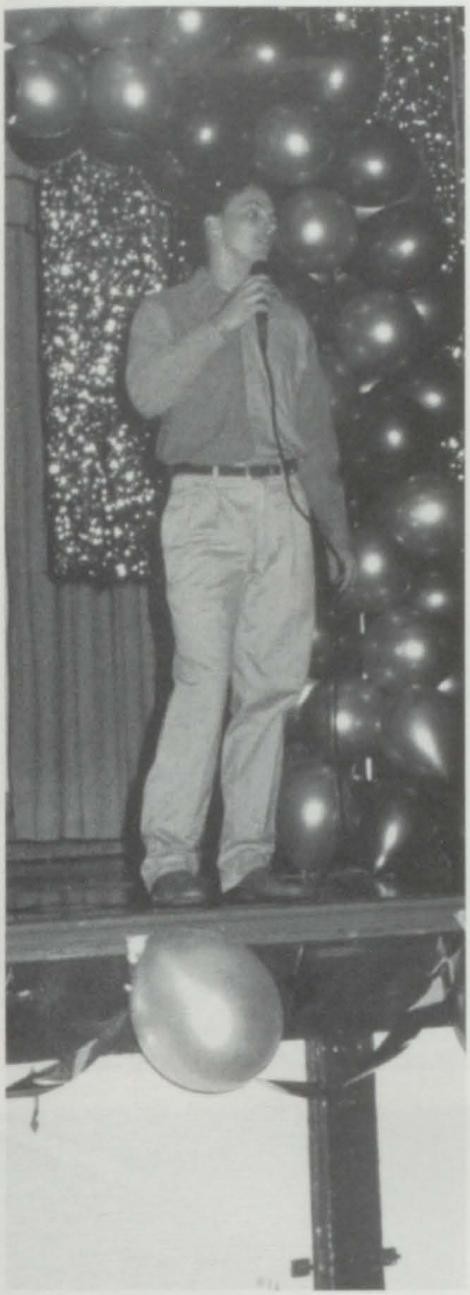
Casie Pruitt, 1st runner-up; **Marie Dotson, Miss BHS 1995;** Amie Goss, 2nd runner-up.

1995 Miss BHS contestants: Stella Joyce, Crissy Ramsey, Melanie Talbert, Casie Pruitt, Amie Goss, Samantha Thompson, Sue Ann Sparks, Marie Dotson, Leisa Hagy, B. J. Crabtree, Cyndi McGrady.



TOP: James McAfee in a rendition of Michael Bolton's "When a Man Loves a Woman".

BOTTOM: Faith Penley, Miss BHS 1994, remembers the anxiety she experienced from the previous year.





TOP CENTER: Traversing the black and white checkered walkway, B. J. Crabtree dons a western outfit for casual wear.

CENTER RIGHT: Stella Joyce smiles for the judges while modeling casual wear.



...And 1995 Miss BHS is...



The purple and silver decorations lit up the stage as twelve elegantly gowned contestants were introduced to the judges and audience. Sponsored by FHA the Miss BHS pageant was held on May 5, 1995, in the Wagner Auditorium. "She's Like the Wind" was the theme with Meagan Morehead and Tanya Ramsey serving as mistresses of ceremony.

The contestants competed in areas of evening gown, casual wear, and the decisive question round. During intermissions entertainment in song was provided by James McAfee and Cora Ramsey.

As the final scores were tallied for the third annual Miss Bland High, Marie Dotson's name was entered into official records as the reigning beauty! Casie Pruitt earned the spot of 1st runner-up and Amie Goss was selected as 2nd runner-up.

Miss Echo begins second fifty years

Miss Echo 1996, Miss Ashleigh Sarver escorted by Brent Tate, was crowned on September 29, 1995. Ashleigh proudly became the 51st annual Miss Echo. For selling the most yearbook subscriptions, she received a tiara, banner, and a $75 U.S. Savings Bond. Ashleigh was also invited to participate in the royalty parade held during the Festival of Leaves. Ashleigh will be recorded in the annals of former Miss Echoes logged at Bland High School.

Miss Kelly Dunn, escorted by Derrick Dehart, was first runner-up. Kelly received a $50 U.S. Savings Bond. Miss Hanne Evensen represented the Senior Class and was escorted by Jody Lambert. Miss Marie Dotson was elected as the Junior Class candidate and chose John Thompson as her escort. Miss Susan Stanley was the eighth grade candidate and selected Robert Newberry as her escort for the evening. These young ladies sold a total of 326 yearbook subscriptions. Each candidate received a token gift of appreciation for their sale efforts.

The Miss Echo dance was held in the gym with music provided by Johnny Goins. Senior, Melanie Talbert, was Mistress of Ceremonies. Following the introduction of candidates and the official crowning of Miss Echo 1996, BHS Senior girls presented 4-H exchange student, Hanne Evensen, with a bouquet of roses for her representation of the Senior class.

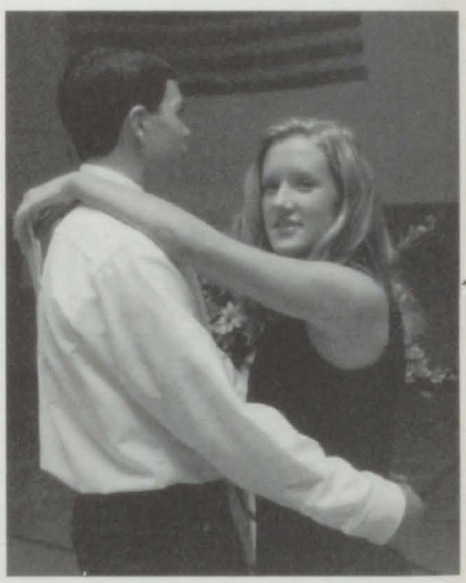
Miss Echo, Ashleigh Sarver, and Brent Tate led the first dance of the evening. Grades 7-12 were invited to participate in the evening's events.



ABOVE - **Miss Echo Court:** Robert Newberry and Susan Stanley-Eighth Grade; Derrick Dehart and Kelly Dunn-Tenth Grade; Brent Tate and Ashleigh Sarver-Ninth Grade; Jody Lambert and Hanne Evensen-Twelfth Grade; John Thompson and Marie Dotson-Eleventh Grade



ABOVE: Nikki Elliott, Mindy Wyllie, and Allesha Bourne group dance.



ABOVE: Derrick Dehart and Kelly Dunn

LEFT: Miss Echo 1996 Ashleigh Sarver

BELOW: Sarah Smith and Adam Faulkner enjoy a dance







ABOVE: Jeremiah Tate leads group discussion outside of dance.



ABOVE: Chris Reese and Sharon Shewey discuss dance tactics.

New features added to traditional dance

Having selected club representatives, early October set in motion the mad scramble to win the coveted title of Snow King and Queen. With only six clubs participating, it was astonishing how much food they had to sell. From hot dogs and drinks to the smallest packages of candy, one could find something to please the pickiest palate. All of these "extras" were having a negative effect on the lunchroom and kids became hyper from eating so much "junk" so some new rules came into being. Foods would only be sold during lunchtime and could consist of only cooked items prepared from home. Each club would have designated days of the week for selling (Monday through Wednesday). This arrangement seemed to work quite well until snow interfered with the setup.

As the weeks progressed so did the intake of money. All proceeds would go to the FBLA to be used as community service projects and items for the school. For several years the FBLA gave back to each club a percentage of their total.

The activities culminated with a dance on December 2 in Wagner Auditorium. FBLA members added to the attraction, refreshments, bingo games, and drawings for prizes.

Midway through the dance, the contestants appeared on stage for the announcement of the winners. Crowned the new Snow King & Queen were Brook Dillow and B. J. Crabtree representing the FFA. Second and third places went to Jody Lambert and Michael Kay Mabe of the SCA and Heath Puckett and Stella Joyce from the Junior Beta.

Learning new steps in line dancing are Casie Pruett, Debbie Munsey, Hanne Evensen, Ashley Havens.





Johnny Goins, provider of dance music.



Taking time out: Kristina St. Clair, Daniel Conley, April Umbarger, Heather Morehead.

SNOW COURT CONTESTANTS: Michael Pruett, Sarah Smith, 1995 winners; Andy Selfe, Debbie Munsey, Photography; Jody Lambert, Michael Kay Mabe, SCA; Brook Dillow, B. J. Crabtree, FFA; J. B. Lambert, Leisa Hagy, FHA; Heath Puckett, Stella Joyce, Junior Beta; Jeremy Dillow, Kelly Dunn, Senior Beta.







CENTER LEFT: Andy Selfe and Debbie Munsey join in the pleasure of slow dancing.

CENTER RIGHT: Enjoying a game of bingo are Benjamin May, Titus Ramsey, Rob Kegley, David Neal, Mark Davidson, Andrew Schoeneman.



1st runner-up Jody Lambert and Michael Kay Mabe, SNOW KING & QUEEN Brook Dillow and B. J. Crabtree, 2nd runner-up Heath Puckett and Stella Joyce.

Homecoming The Rockets and The Bears

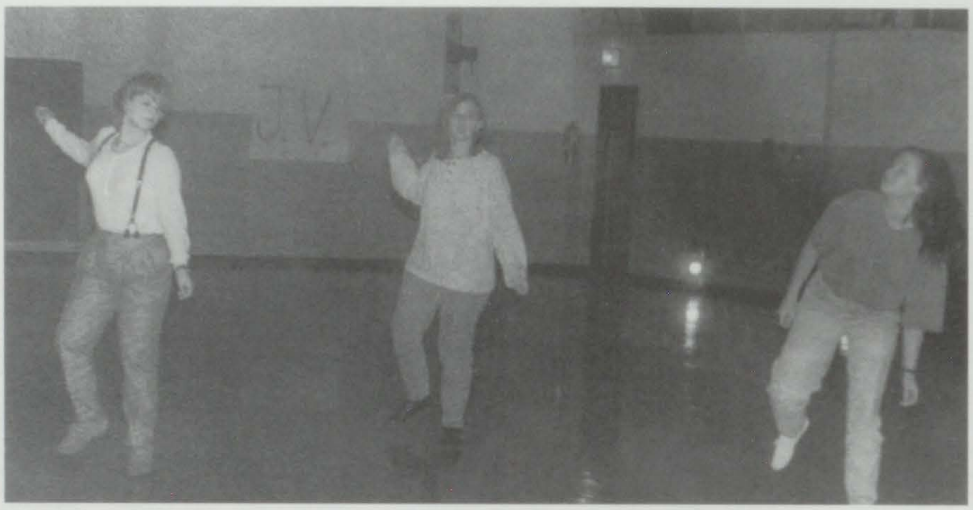
Two of the biggest events at Bland High were its football and basketball homecomings. Students came to the games and then stayed for the dances that were held afterwards. This year's Football Homecoming Queen was Leslie Kelley. She was escorted by Smokey Parmenter and was crowned during half-time at the homecoming game.

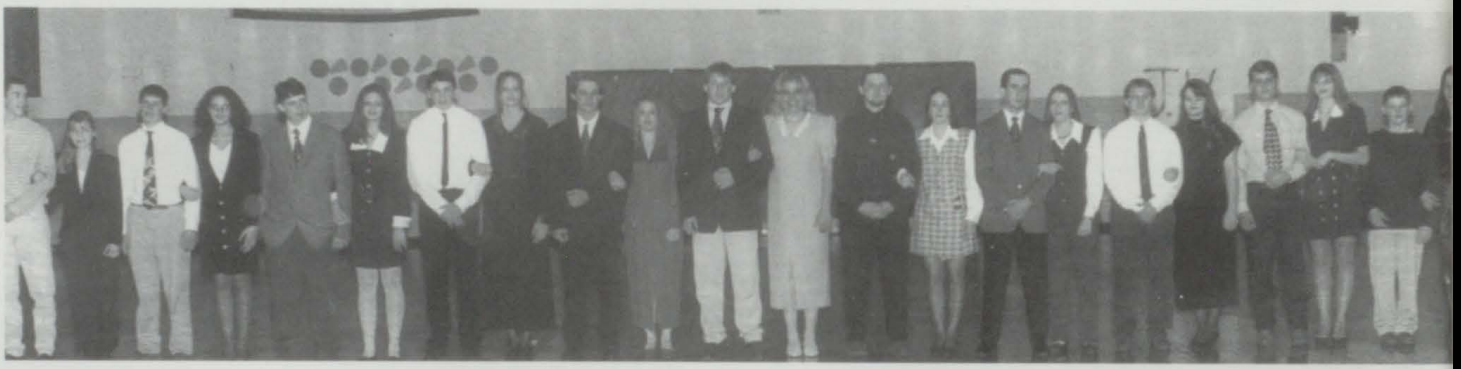
Pachess Umbarger, also a Bland senior, was escorted by Jacob Scott and crowned during the dance that followed the game between Rocky Gap and Bland. The dance was scheduled for February 2nd. For the second year in a row, homecoming was postponed because of the "white stuff," a familiar sight for Bland. The event took place Feb. 10.



LEFT: Leslie Kelley and Smokey Parmenter, King an Queen.
CENTER LEFT: Tracie Jones, Amanda Brown, an Cindy King.
BELOW: Brandon Faulkner and Mindy Wyllie.







ABOVE: Jonmichael Newberry, Ashley Tate, Jamie Dunn, Reneé Gross, John Curtis Thompson, Leslie Carroll, Derrick Dehart, Marie Dotson, Sam Tickle, She Blankenship, Jacob Scott, Pachess Umbarger, Ben Chewning, Lisa Owens, Mike Munsey, Amy Hanshew, J. B. Lambert, Leisa Hagy, Jacob Hess, Casie Pruitt, Brando Faulkner, Mindy Wyllie.











ABOVE LEFT: Jacob Scott and Pachess Umbarger Basketball King and Queen.

TOP RIGHT: Brooke Kitts and J.D. Walls dance after the game.

ABOVE: Michael Kay Mabe and Ben Chewning following the game.

BOTTOM LEFT: Sheri Blankenship and Sam Tickle were first runners-up.

CENTER LEFT: Leslie Kelley receives banner as Homecoming Queen.

Little Miss and Junior Miss Bland County

The Wagner Auditorium held many beautiful faces the night of the Little & Junior Miss Bland County Pageants. Young ladies in formal dresses lit up Wagner Auditorium. each with eager hearts as willing contestants in the Pageant. By the judge's decision, only three finalists in each contest would be chosen as winners.

The Pageants were sponsored by the sixth grade class to raise money for their trip to Williamsburg.



Top ten contestants excitedly stand before the judges eagerly awaiting decisions: Ashley Davis, Jessica Dillow, Melissa Hagy, Kayla Kennedy, Lindsey Newberry, Amanda Slaughter, Shona Upshurch, Brandi Walker, Jamie White, Regina White.



Ashley Davis, 2nd runner-up; **Kayla Kennedy, Little Miss Bland County 1996**; Jamie White, 1st runner-up.



Lindsey Bucci prepares to answer Mrs. Lana Hall's question.

TOP LEFT: A Junior Miss contestant, Adriana Faulkner, glides across the stage.

TOP RIGHT- **Junior Miss winners :** Sarah Austin, 1st runner-up; **Cynthia Akers, Junior Miss Bland County 1996;** Kristen Songer, 2nd runner-up.



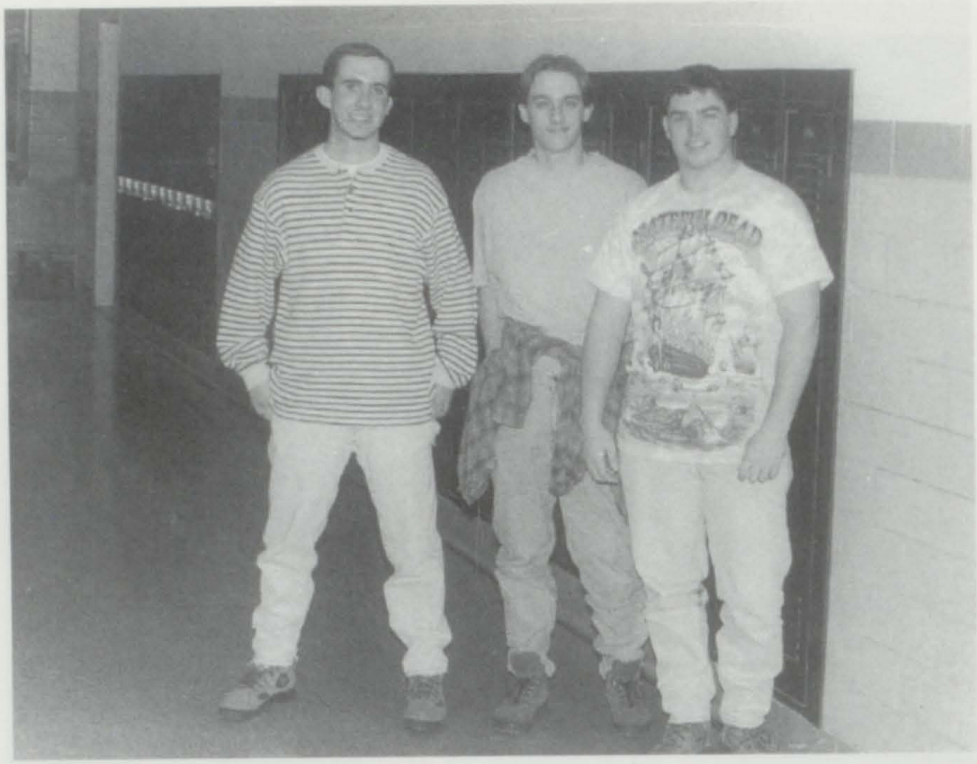




Young escorts were a helpful part of the pageant and presented Mrs. Rachel Nelson with a gift of appreciation.



Hunter Stewart escorts Laura Sisson off the stage.



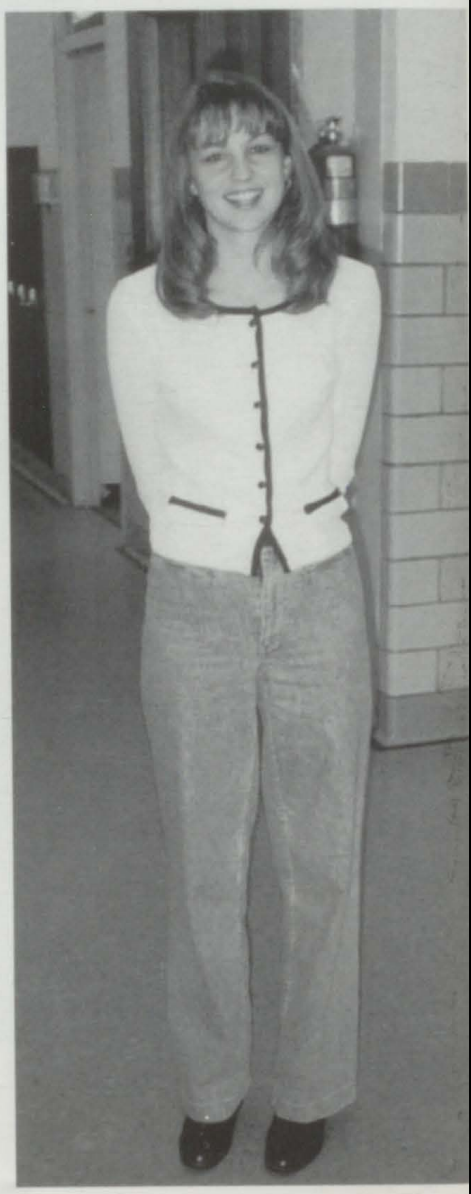


ABOVE: Seniors, Mike Munsey, Sam Tickle, and Jody Lambert show off the rugged look.
LEFT: Katie Muncy and Christa Winesett "Peace Dudes."

The Changes Are Endless.

Fashions and Trends are endless. As our journey continues through time fashions will always change. Platform shoes, bell-bottoms, and other styles have come back to the 90's from the 60's. As we walked through our journey we took time to see the fashions that have come back to many people. Fashions are not the only things that have changed, even hair styles have changed. From having nice short hair to shaved on the sides, long in the back, and of course dyed black. Even the girls have dyed their hair different colors.





ABOVE: Pachess Umbarger shows off her backpack and tie-dyed shirt.
RIGHT: Casie Pruitt models bell-bottomed jeans.



LEFT: Rachel Munsey wants everyone to see those white high-heeled shoes.
LEFT: Jason Neal and Jeremiah Clemons in the shaved and ponytail styles worn by a few.







ABOVE: Pachess Umbarger in her over-alls.
LEFT: In contrast to the guys hair styles, Leslie Kelley proves that "a woman's hair is her crowning glory."

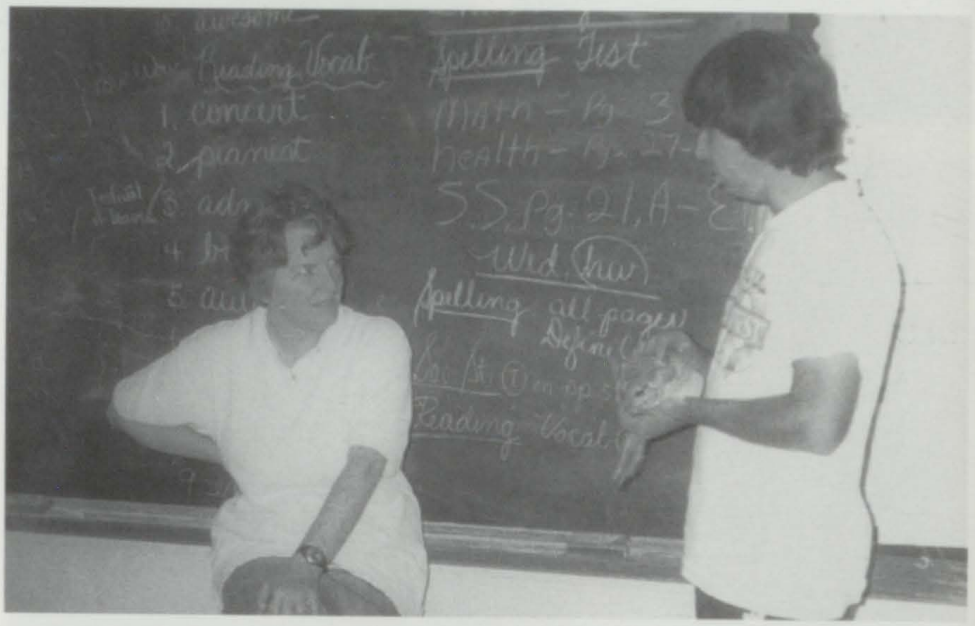


TOP: Mrs. Debbie Massie's class with their fall creations. *Seated:* Jessie Umbarger, Nena Spencer, Billy Umbarger, April Rambo, Angel Sparks, Justin Morehead. *Standing:* Monica Havens, Jacob Davidson, Dorothy Umbarger.

CENTER: Ms. Jan Scott gives undivided attention to a visiting parent as they discuss the care of chinchilla rabbits. The rabbits were brought for show-and-tell.

BOTTOM LEFT: Kindergarteners listen to a story with teacher, Mrs. Iris Pruett.

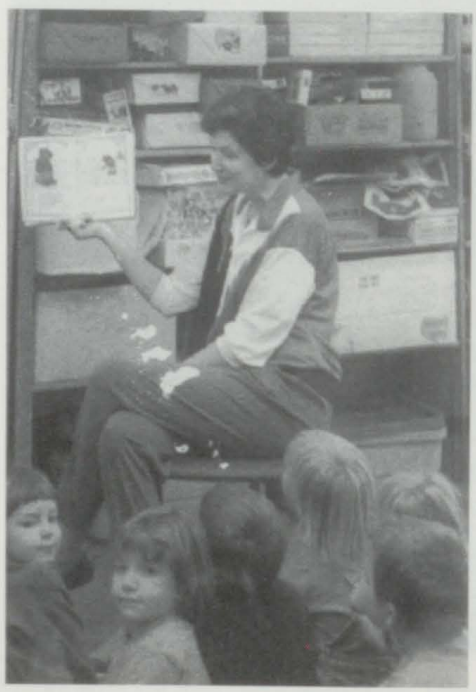
BOTTOM RIGHT: Ashleigh Sarver drums up yearbook sales with her happy personality.



Candids!

Those unsolicited snapshots

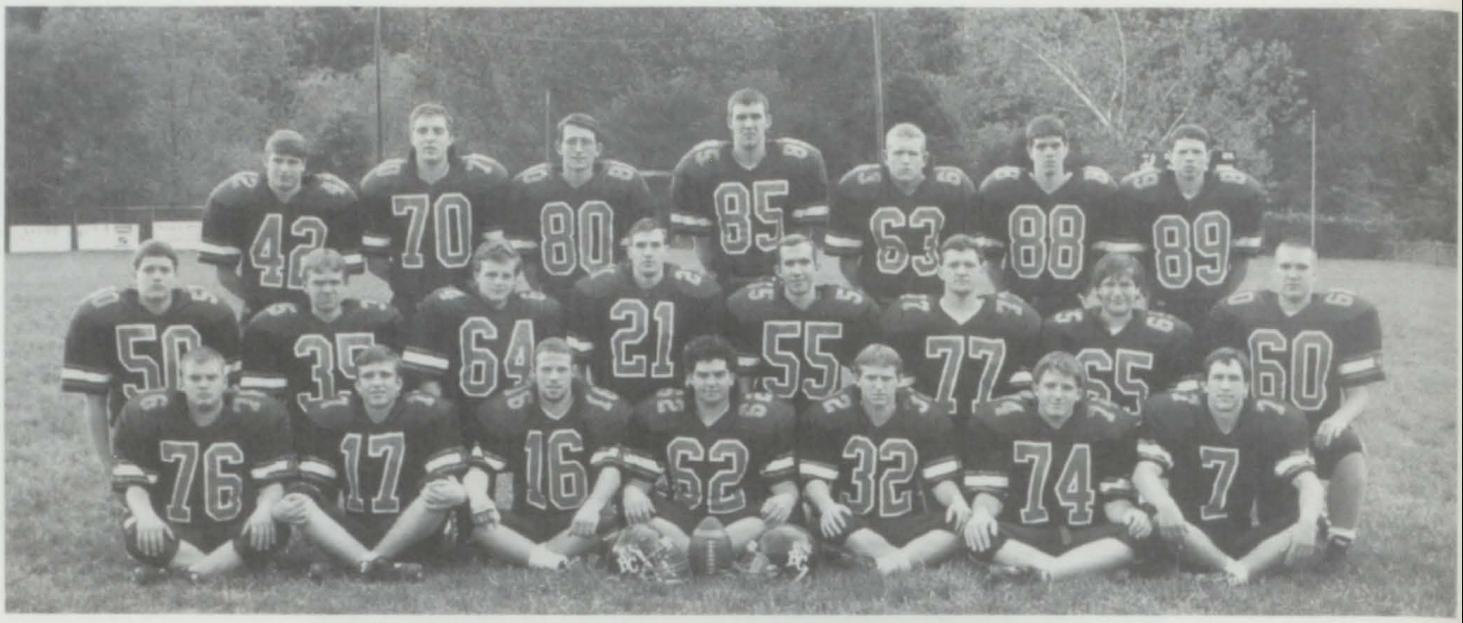
No matter where you went or how careful you were, it seemed someone from the yearbook staff was always there, pointing that little black box at you. Before you even had time to strike a good pose you were caught with a flash in your eyes. At times the predicament in which you were placed was embarrassing or at least unflattering. Pleas of "please don't use that picture" were to no avail as the "taker" just smiled and ambled away with that strange gleam in their eyes. You groaned and hoped nobody would recognize you in the yearbook.







Sports



VARSITY FOOTBALL TEAM-Front row: David Blankenship, Jason Hancock, Todd Morehead, Jody Lambert, J. B. Lambert, Jacob Scott, JonMichael Newberry.

2nd row: Nick Bruffy, Jeremy Neal, Lee Hankins, Smokey Parmenter, Mike Munsey, Ben Chewning, Phillip Reed, William Leighton.

Back row: Chris Beaman, Matthew French, Keith Bourne, Andy Selfe, Eric Miller, Eric Johnson, Derrick DeHart.

CENTER: Todd Morehead evades would be tackler by assisstance of J. B. Lambert.

BOTTOM RIGHT: Bears break through banner while entering the field in a game against Auburn.

BOTTOM LEFT: Coach John Chmara gives instructions to JonMichael Newberry.







SCOREBOARD
VARSITY FOOTBALL

US	OPPONENT	THEM
53	Galax	14
0	Grayson	7
29	Big Creek	26
20	Shawsville	10
47	Council	0
41	Narrows	20
8	Giles	46
43	Auburn	8
30	Ft. Chiswell	7
49	Craig	7

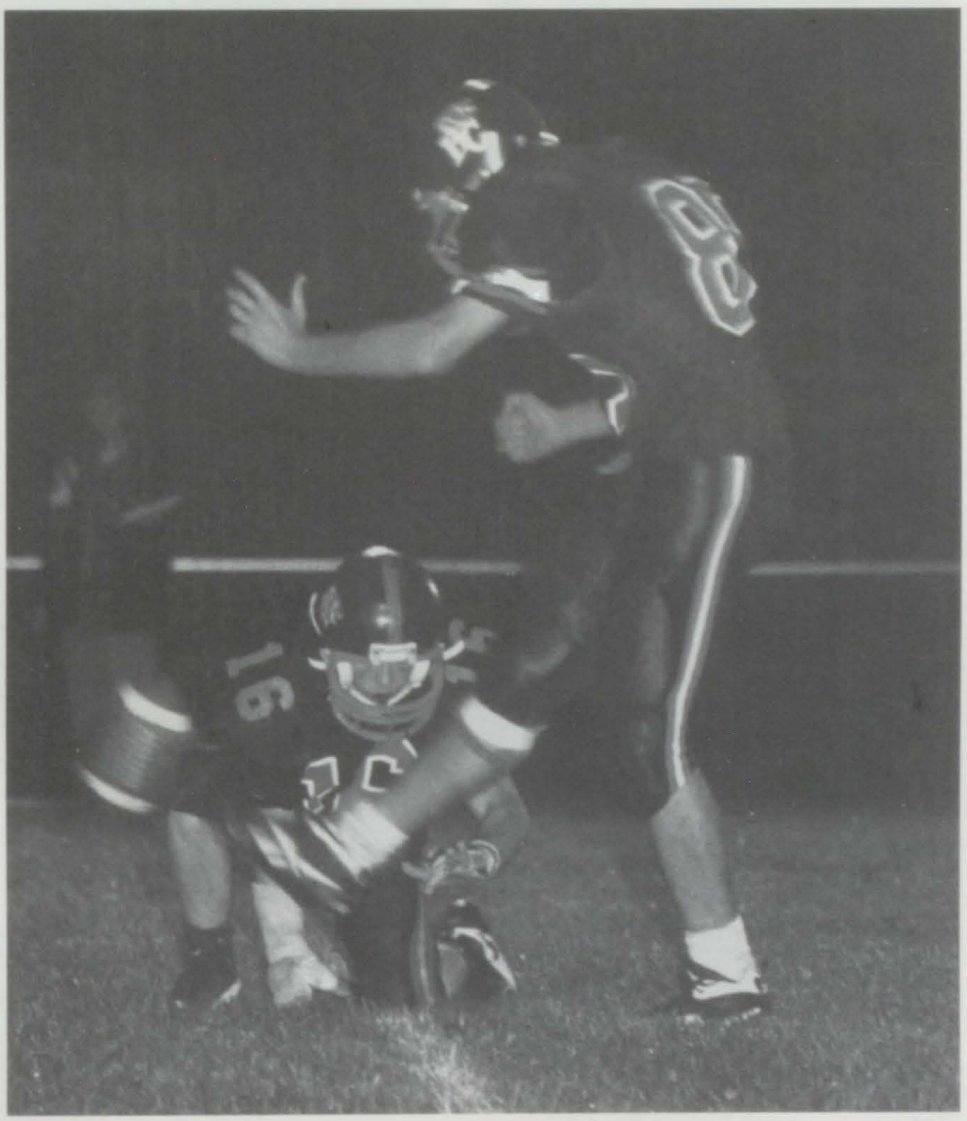
WON - 8 LOST - 2

"Against All Odds"

The Bland County Bears held the county in the palm of their hand as they pawed their way through the 1995 football season. Bear tracks could be seen on lockers, walls, and cars. Citizens, students, and Mama and Papa Bears were enthralled by the overwhelming success of these Bears. County-wide encouragement, as well as both schools' nurture and care, fed these rustic Bears. Friday football became the mainstay of the community. Mrs. Becky Scott assisted in fund raising by cross-stitching Bear pennants.

With the addition of Mr. John Chmara to the Bears' coaching staff, new plays, tactics, and strategies were implemented and improved upon throughout the season. With many successful seasons under his belt, Mr. Chmara proved to be a true focus in Bland's Dream Team. Other coaching staff lent their veteran expertise to sweeten the pot from which these Bears fed.

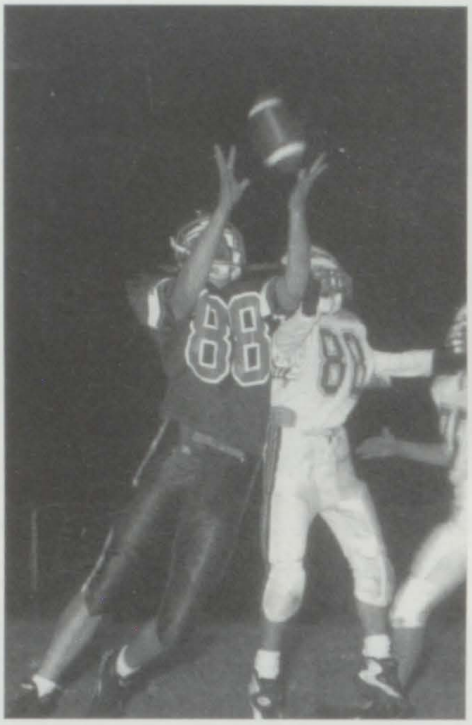




RIGHT: Todd Morehead holds football for Andy Selfe for an attempted field goal.
LEFT: No game would be complete without the Bears' mascot, Kara Perkins.

TOP LEFT: Chris Berg makes a nice catch in spite of defense.

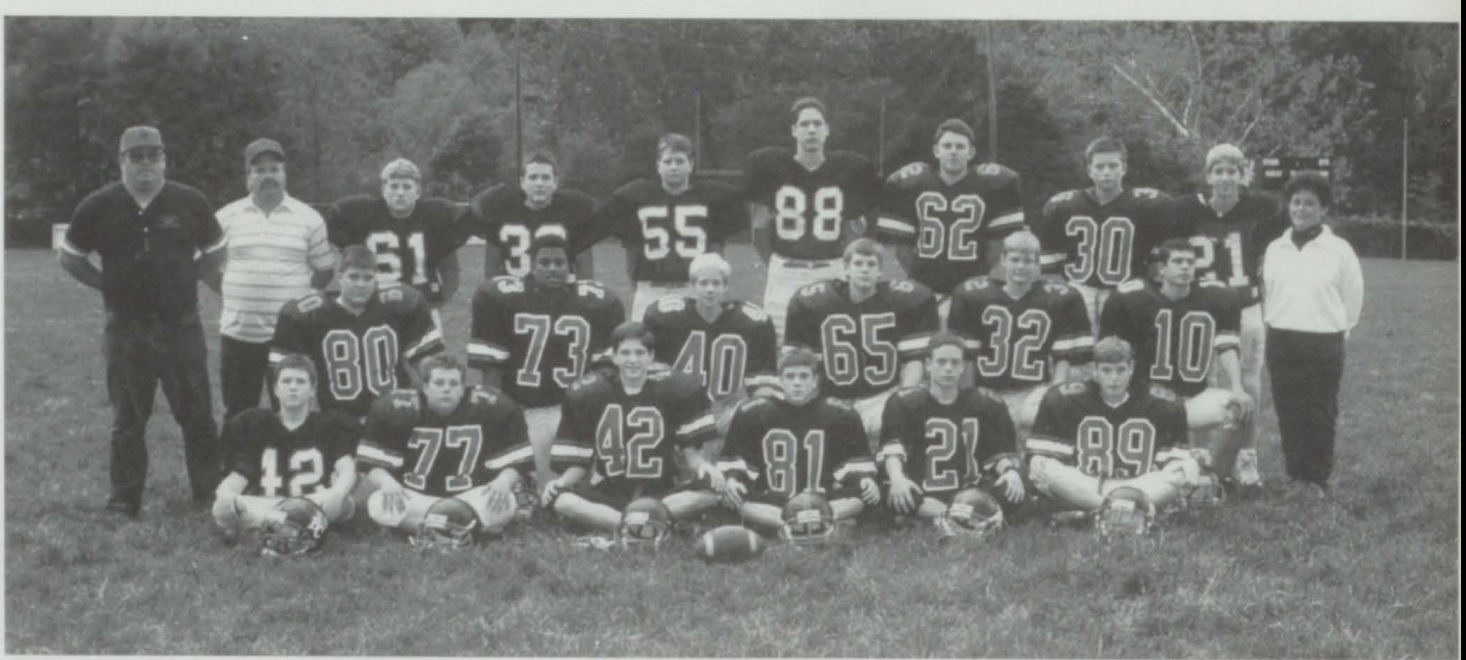
CENTER: Anthony Kidd (35) and David Olinger (62) take the opposition to the ground.





Weston Patton attempts to out maneuver his opponent.





JV FOOTBALL TEAM-Seated: J. C. Belcher, Jason Farley, Robert Newberry, Zach Perkins, Zane Perkins, Josh Buchanan.
2nd row: Coach Bob Beaman, Chad Brewer, Keith Johnson, Mark McKee, J.D. Wall, Jason Meadows, Jesse Goss, Coach Margaret Harless.
Back row: Coach Lester Hancock, Jeremy Harless, Anthony Kidd, Mike Nelson, Chris Berg, David Olinger, Jonathan Hull, Westen Patton. Not pictured: Bradley Johnson.

Female input strengthens Bears

Bears were still on a roll with interest remaining high. Having a woman on the coaching team was a first for the Bears' team. After school practices, homework, home and away games became a juggling act for these active and dedicated Bears.

With the support of their older Bear brothers (which is the varsity team) these team members had the confidence and the drive to end with a successful 5-3 season.



Jesse Goss hangs on tightly to the football as he passes would be tacklers and searches for openings. J. D. Wall (65) assists by getting defensive players out of the way.

JV FOOTBALL SCOREBOARD

US	*OPPONENT*	*THEM*
14	*Ft. Chiswell*	*0*
0	*Narrows*	*20*
0	*Galax*	*19*
8	*Shawsville*	*6*
26	*Narrows*	*0*
12	*Galax*	*34*
24	*Auburn*	*8*
30	*Ft. Chiswell*	*12*

WON - 5 LOST - 3



Robert Newberry (42) and Mike Nelson (55) block out as Mark McKee (40) delivers the ball.



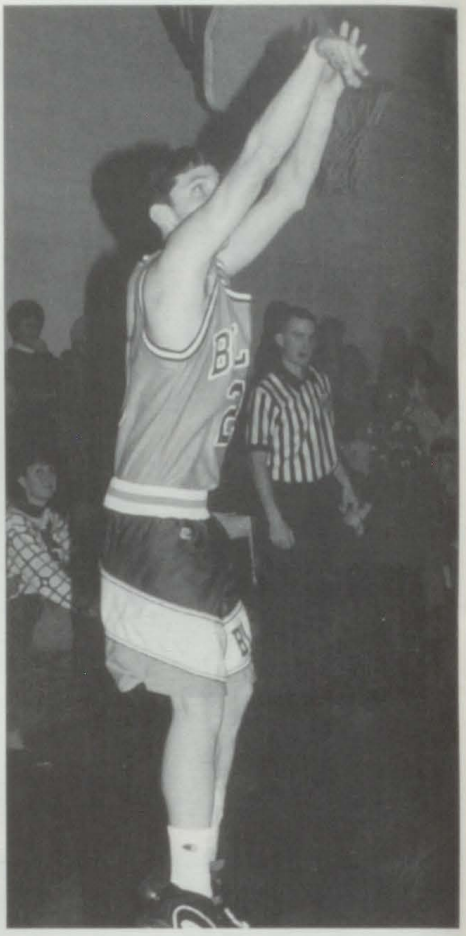
Jason Meadows (32) runs with the pigskin while dodging the reaching hands of Auburn.

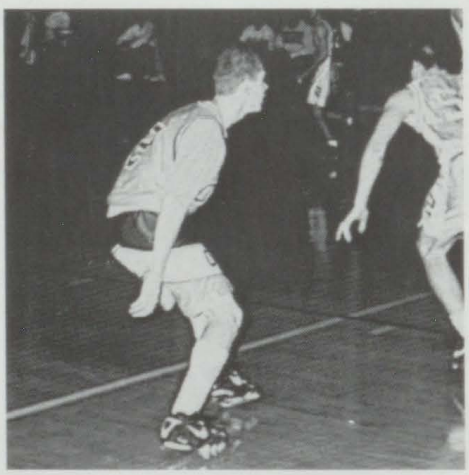
Bland Rockets Blast Off.

Five, four, three, two, "blast off !" The Rockets began slowly, but as the season progressed the player's ambitions to win began to blast. As steam built the players came together as a team. More Rocket victories began to unravel. Spirits soared along with their scores because of the blast effort in their hearts and talent in their hands. The Rockets may have started off slowly, but just like a Rocket everything takes time. Named to All-District 1st Team was John C. Thompson with Lee Meadows and Andy Selfe receiving Honorable Mention.



Andy "Homer" Selfe goes for the shot against Shawsville guards. Jamie Dunn watches from behind.



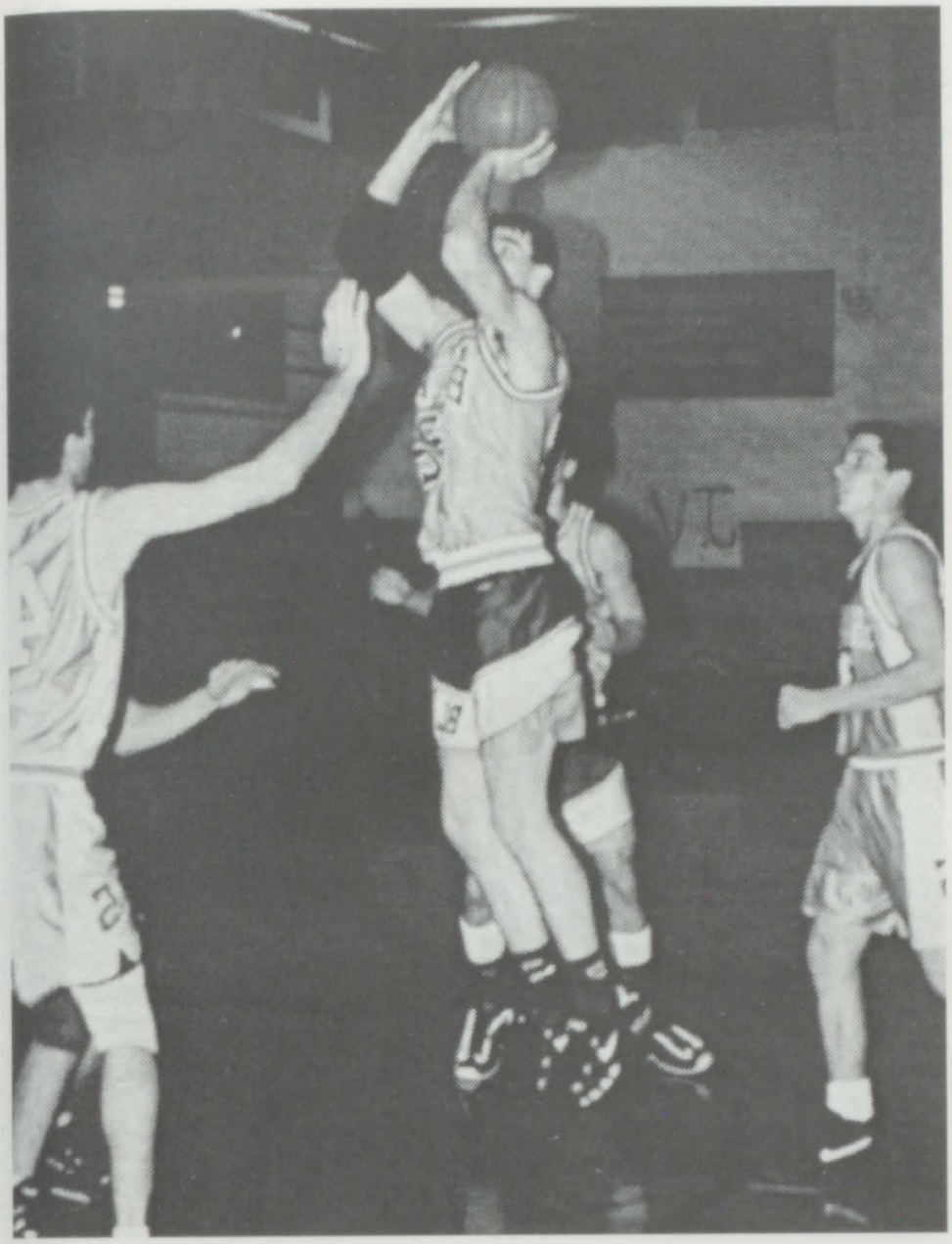


ABOVE RIGHT: John Curtis Thompson shoots for a three.

ABOVE: Lee Meadows guards Shawsvilles players.



Jason Hancock and Jamie Dunn scramble to gain control of the ball.



SCOREBOARD
Varsity Basketball

US		THEM
55	Auburn	62
67	Giles	84
58	Radford	74
62	Auburn	51
53	Rocky Gap	62
48	Radford	69
45	Shawsville	43
44	Giles	57
40	Narrows	53
63	Shawsville	55
46	Ft. Chiswell	55
52	Grayson	60
57	Galax	48
61	Rocky Gap	52
60	Narrows	45
37	Grayson	49
77	Ft. Chiswell	69
33	Galax	52

WON-7 LOST-11

LEFT: Smokey Parmenter shoots for two while guarded by Shawsville.

BELOW Jon Michael Newberry goes for two.





VARSITY BOYS' BASKETBALL TEAM-Front row: Jamie Dunn, John Curtis Thompson, Lee Meadows, J. B. Lambert. **Back row:** Jason Hancock, Heath Puckett, Andy Selfe, Smokey Parmenter, JonMichael Newberry.

Teamwork Leads to Success for JV Rockets

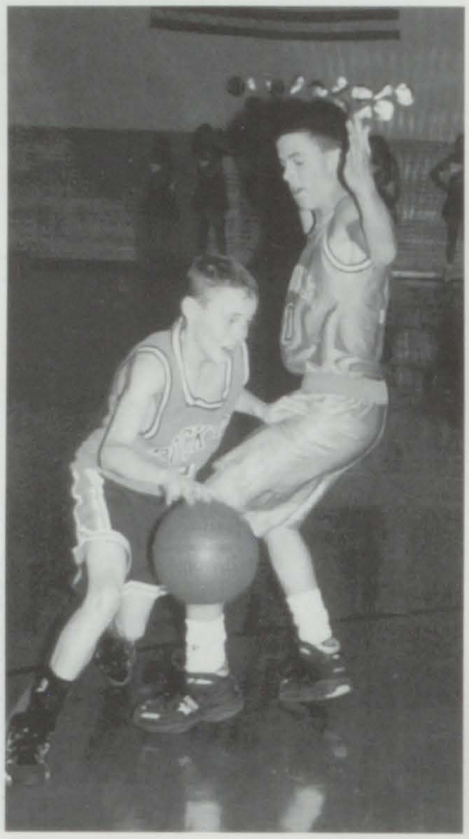
The Bland High JV Basketball Team enjoyed a very successful season this year behind the leadership of several key players and Coach Kevin Johnson. With several years of coaching "under his belt," Coach Johnson used his experience and expertise to guide his team through a successful season. Parents, students, and fans followed the team and their victories at both home and away games.

First, there were the guards, Brent Tate, Joe Meadows, and Adam Faulkner. Whether they were shooting from the perimeter, driving to the basket, or just playing hard defense, these three always seemed a step ahead of the competition.

Then there were the twin towers, Jason Groseclose and Jeremiah Tate, who sparked fear in the eyes of opposing players.

When these two groups worked together, along with several key players from the bench, the Rockets were nearly impossible to stop.

The JV Team was made up of seven Sophomores and six Freshman, who will advance next season. These thirteen players worked together with determination and captured the regular season Mountain Empire District title.





TOP RIGHT: Joe Meadows keps his sight on the goal while surrounded by Shawnees.

CENTER: Adam Faulkner's quickness helps avoid the Shawsville player

BOTTOM RIGHT: Eric Reed goes for the goal with blocking assistance from teammate, Brent Tate



Jeremiah Tate outruns and outmaneuvers Shawsville to gain possession of the basketball





SCOREBOARD
JV Basketball

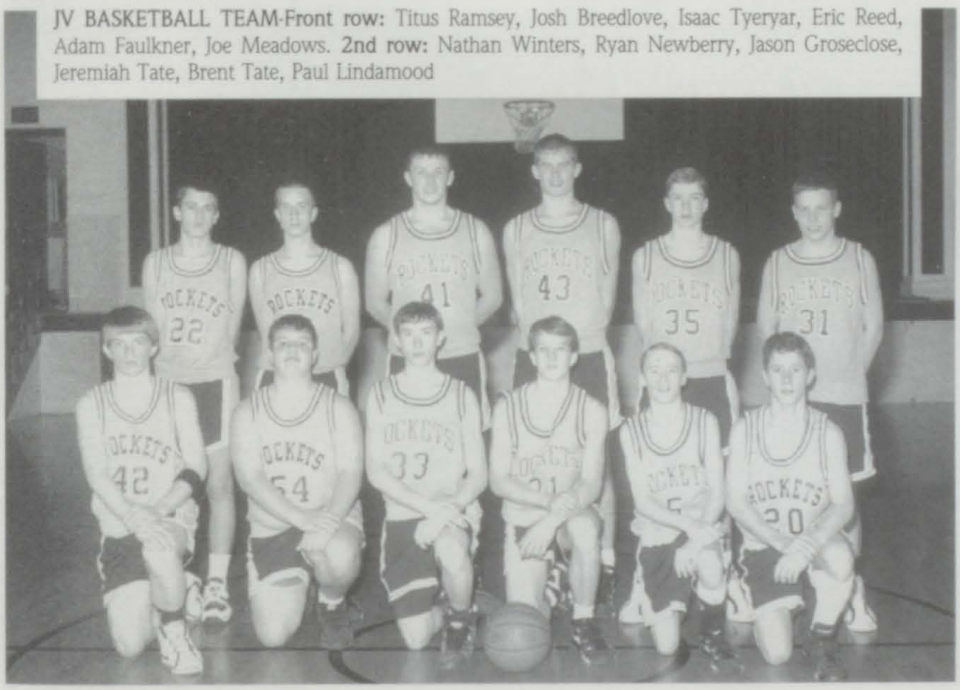
US		*THEM*
49	*Auburn*	*63*
42	*Giles*	*34*
64	*Radford*	*37*
57	*Auburn*	*43*
45	*Rocky Gap*	*35*
29	*Radford*	*51*
62	*Shawsville*	*44*
44	*Giles*	*57*
51	*Narrows*	*41*
62	*Shawsville*	*41*
49	*Ft. Chiswell*	*45*
35	*Grayson*	*44*
45	*Galax*	*40*
57	*Rocky Gap*	*29*
48	*Narrows*	*28*
48	*Grayson*	*42*
49	*Ft. Chiswell*	*47*
59	*Galax*	*43*

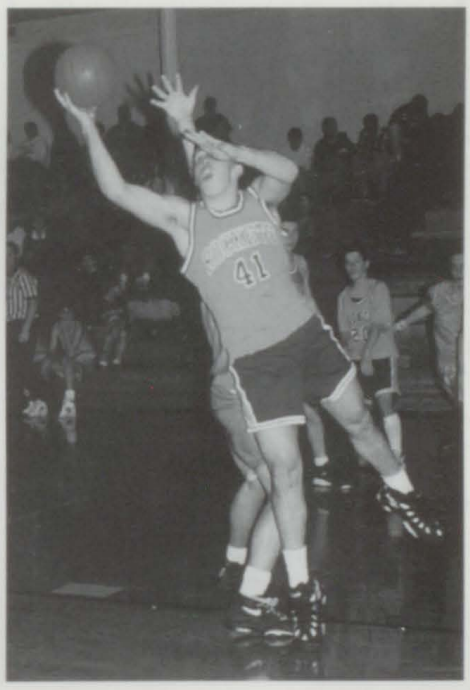
WON-14 LOST-4

TOP: Ryan Newberry takes it to the hoop for two points in spite of tough defense.

BOTTOM: Jason Groseclose avoids opponent's strategy and scores.

JV BASKETBALL TEAM-Front row: Titus Ramsey, Josh Breedlove, Isaac Tyeryar, Eric Reed, Adam Faulkner, Joe Meadows. **2nd row:** Nathan Winters, Ryan Newberry, Jason Groseclose, Jeremiah Tate, Brent Tate, Paul Lindamood





First year experience

With a new coach and new players, the eighth grade boys' basketball team met with excitement and trepidation. To be a sixth grader and play on a high school team was a feather in your cap. Even though the season was a disappointing one for these youngsters, they played as if they were winning. Being somewhat inexperienced and greatly outsized they encountered their opponents with persistence and self-confidence in their own skills and abilities.

Parental support was never fai ing. Parents, grandparents, aun and uncles all turned out to offe their support and optimism. Eight graders rallied at each game whil learning new plays, offense, and de fense. Also contributing to the tea effort was the eighth grade chee leading squad.

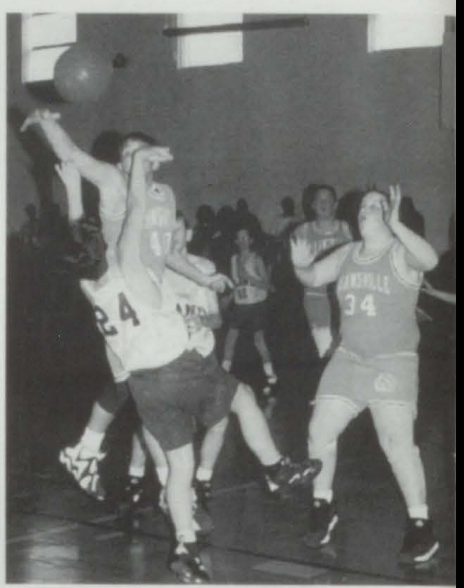
This team was made up of si eighth graders, two seventh grader and three sixth graders. Both tea managers were from the sixt grade.

TOP LEFT: Matthew Tickle, Stuart Morehead, Rob Kegley defensively watch play by Shawnees hoping for a steal or an error on offense.

TOP RIGHT: John Dillow's shot is blocked by a Shawnee. Rob Kegley and Benjamin May in background.

BOTTOM: Coach Shane Hall gives last minute instructions to his team.















TOP - EIGHTH BOYS' BASKETBALL TEAM -Front row: Manager, David Wolcott, John Dillow, Brandon Faulkner, Brian Faulkner, Benjamin May, Andy Sarver, Brandon Anders, manager. Back row: Coach Shane Hall, Aaron Pauley, Stuart Morehead, Charlie Stiltner, Rob Kegley, Seth Baker, Matthew Tickle.
TOP RIGHT: With a clear shot, Brandon Faulkner pulls up for a two pointer.
CENTER: Shawnees tower over Andy Sarver as his speed lets him forge ahead.
BOTTOM: Seth Baker quickly drives in with Brian Faulkner and John Dillow in the background.

SCOREBOARD
8TH BOYS' BASKETBALL

US		THEM
11	*Auburn*	*59*
13	*Radford*	*71*
23	*Auburn*	*52*
23	*Rocky Gap*	*31*
29	*Radford*	*34*
16	*Sugar Grove*	*44*
29	*Shawsville*	*36*
34	*Giles*	*46*
23	*Narrows*	*34*
16	*Shawsville*	*31*
6	*Ft. Chiswell*	*68*
25	*Sugar Grove*	*52*
13	*Grayson*	*55*
23	*Galax*	*46*
27	*Rocky Gap*	*35*
37	*Narrows*	*33*
28	*Grayson*	*53*
17	*Ft. Chiswell*	*59*
45	*Galax*	*57*

WON - 0 LOST - 19

JV BASKETBALL CHEERLEADERS: Laura Clifton, Leslie Gordon, Debbie Munsey, Ashley Havens, Casie Pruitt, Brooke Kitts, Reneé Gross, Katie Muncy.







ABOVE: Laura Clifton and Reneé Gross encourage players with their cheers.

CENTER RIGHT - JV BEARS CHEERLEADERS- **Seated:** Heather Stiltner. **Back row:** Missy Woods, Stella Joyce, Mandy Jones.

BOTTOM: Football players at pep rally.







8TH BASKETBALL CHEERLEADERS-Front row: Crystal Hancock, Ashley Tate, Jessica Kidd. 2nd row: Kelli Hall, Susan Stanley, Heather Morehead. Back row: Kelly Sluss.



VARSITY BEARS CHEERLEADERS: Debbie Munsey, Leslie Kelley, Andrea Bruffey, Mary Beth Pennington.



VARSITY BASKETBALL CHEERLEADERS-Front row: Sheri Blankenship, Marie Dotson, Leslie Kelley. Back row: Michael Kay Mabe, Rae Romano, Sarah Smith. *Not pictured Amy Hanshew.*

Practice makes perfect

Known as an unstrenuous sport, cheerleading actually consisted of long practices involving nearly every muscle of the body. At least cheerleaders felt like every muscle had been used following a vigorous workout.

These squads of active young ladies provided the attractiveness and "noise" to help pump adrenalin into those muscular males that made up our many squads of basketball and football teams.

With their exciting formations, music, and routines we looked forward to each time-out and half-time so that we too could be participants in leading both the crowd and the teams forward into victory.

The many hours of practice, drills, tugging and carrying paid off for these gals. They became part of the team themselves and can remember this school year as an added victory.



ABOVE: Varsity Girls Basketball Team:

Front Row:
Rae Ramano, Amy Hanshew, Jennifer Winters.

Back Row:
Sheri Blankenship, Amie Goss, Pachess Umbarger, Hannne Evenson, Kelly Tickle, and Jamie Goss.

Watch out Jennifer Winters!



BELOW: Pachess Umbarger looks for player.



Hanne Evenson takes the ball down court.



SCOREBOARD
Varsity Girls' Basketball

US	OPPONENT	THEM
30	*Pocahontas*	24
31	*Shawsville*	52
38	*Auburn*	92
26	*Giles*	62
19	*Radford*	59
31	*Giles*	56
29	*Shawsville*	72
44	*Rocky Gap*	63
30	*Galax*	72
47	*Grayson*	64
30	*Galax*	72
35	*Narrows*	68
44	*Fort Chiswell*	65
45	*Rocky Gap*	46
30	*Grayson*	66
31	*Auburn*	70
26	*Galax*	63
29	*Narrows*	68
33	*Fort Chiswell*	65
66	*Fort Chiswell*	44

Sheri Blankenship doesn't give an inch to the opponent.



Determination leads the way

With a team full of six seniors and three enhancing juniors, the Bland High School Girls' Basketball Team showed a lot of heart and demanding spirit through the season. The team practiced and played hard. Cold determination clouded their faces as they barged onto the floor of each gym. They saw hope at the end of several games despite the final disappointing outcome. Each game wagered a new chance to take home the winning feeling that they so desired.

Hanne Evenson, exchange student from Norway, added a foreign touch to the team that gave height and a suprisingly talented expansion to the team's skills. Together the Varsity Girls Basketball Team put forth the spirited effort and strength that it took to survive the season. Senior Pachess Umbarger was named to the All District Team.





ABOVE: Rae Romano delivers promising three-pointer.
RIGHT: Jamie Goss wrestles her rights to the ball.

Sophomore success
A dream becomes a reality

Nine young sophomores, returning from a disappointing season, had vowed within themselves to make a success of their final year as J.V. status regardless of the odds.

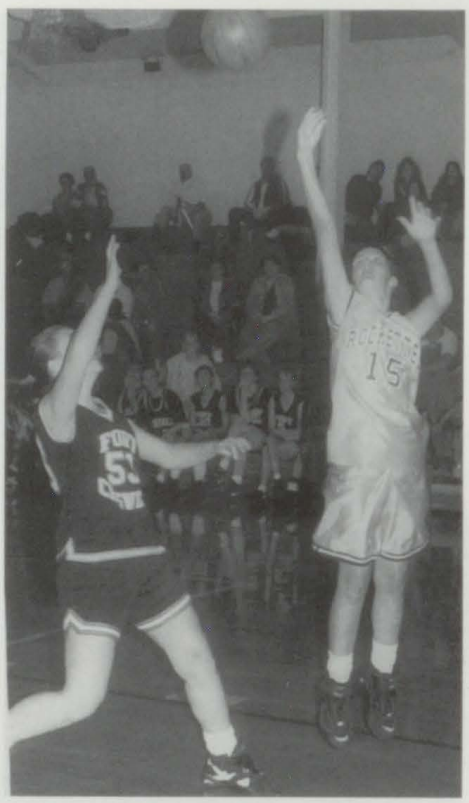
Hours of practices and the heart and soul from every individual was what it took to turn the views of girls' basketball around. These girls were not to be defeated by any obstacle. With self-determination and the will to win, each girl played every game to her fullest.

Under the guidance of Miss LaMoore Muncy, this was the first successful girls' team in several years. Ashley Havens, Kelly Dunn, Kelli King, Stephanie Kelley, Mandy Blankenship, Whitney Gamble, Erin Thompson, Brooke Kitts, and Leslie Carroll made this dream become reality.

These girls surpassed the first rounds of tournaments, but failed to advance after a loss to Rocky Gap. Higher rank for these sophomores at the varsity level is awaiting, and more victorious seasons will surely follow.



Whitney Gamble gets a clear shot for two points.







ABOVE: An anxious moment for Leslie Carroll as the ball circles the rim before dropping.

TOP CENTER: Erin Thompson goes high to retrieve a loose ball.

BOTTOM CENTER: Stephanie Kelley determinedly retaines possession in spite of Ft. Chiswell's struggle.



TOP LEFT-JV BASKETBALL TEAM-**Front row:** Ashley Havens, Stephanie Kelley, Whitney Gamble, Leslie Carroll.
Back row: Erin Thompson, Mandy Blankenship, Kelli King, Brooke Kitts, Kelly Dunn.

BOTTON LEFT: With teammate, Stephanie Kelley, on the floor, Brooke Kitts pops a score through the net.

TOP RIGHT: Tough defense did not keep Kelly Dunn from scoring.





SCOREBOARD
JV GIRLS' BASKETBALL

US	OPPONENT	THEM
28	*Shawsville*	*25*
17	*Auburn*	*38*
28	*Giles*	*26*
29	*Radford*	*17*
25	*Giles*	*26*
42	*Shawsville*	*21*
18	*Radford*	*27*
31	*Rocky Gap*	*44*
15	*Galax*	*42*
36	*Narrows*	*26*
53	*Grayson*	*24*
37	*Ft. Chiswell*	*10*
27	*Rocky Gap*	*32*
37	*Grayson*	*27*
31	*Auburn*	*49*
14	*Galax*	*51*

WON - 8 **LOST - 8**

Eighth grade team is rekindled

For only the second time in Bland's history, a girls' eighth grade team was established. With six eighth graders and three seventh graders these pioneer rockettes went to the floor with confidence and determination. Although a winning season did not occur, Ms LaMoore Muncy guided these girls to the first win of an eighth grade girls' team at Bland ever (over Grayson).

Those veteran JV volleyballers showed the same drive and determination they experienced in basketball. They set out to prove they were winners as they conquered team after team at the volleyball nets. Their byline was, "we don't wash our uniforms until we lose a game." By the end of the season those "whites" were beginning to look a little gray.

Their perserverance landed them 1st place in the district.

SCOREBOARD
EIGHTH GRADE BASKETBALL

US		THEM
8	Auburn	42
13	Ft. Chiswell	48
14	Grayson	17
17	Galax	41
18	Grayson	17
18	Narrows	22

WON-1 LOST-5

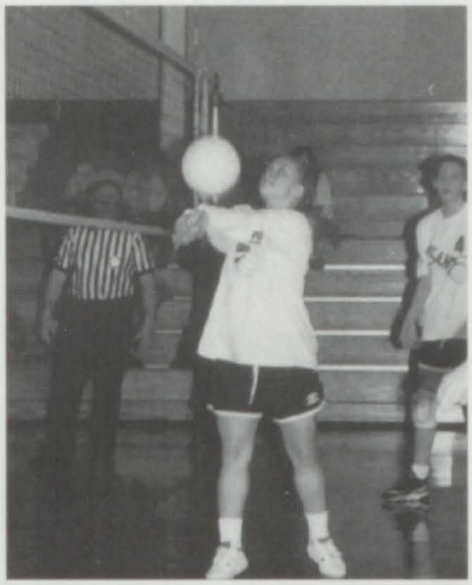






TOP RIGHT - EIGHTH GRADE TEAM-Front row: Lian Cole, Crystal Hancock, Laura Bridges, Kristen Altizer. **Back row:** Ashley Strock, Susan Stanley, Crystal Stiltner, Monica Reed, Kelli Hall.
BOTTOM LEFT: Kelli Hall goes for two.
BOTTOM RIGHT: Kelli Hall makes a perfect block and assistance is there with Laura Bridges, Ashley Strock, and Monica Reed.







TOP LEFT: Ashley Havens crashes this one to the floor.

TOP CENTER: Whitney Gamble bumps this one over.

CENTER - JV VOLLEYBALL TEAM - **Front row:** Jenny Walker, Leisa Hagy, Erin Thompson, Ashleigh Sarver, Lori Tabor. **2nd row:** Sarah Smith, Kelli King, Whitney Gamble, Sara King, Sondra Wolfe, Casie Pruitt. **Back row:** Mandy Blankenship, Ashley Havens, Debbie Munsey.

BOTTOM: Kelli King sets up to Sara King and Jenny Walker.





SCOREBOARD
JV VOLLEYBALL

US		THEM
2	*Narrows*	*1*
2	*Galax*	*0*
2	*Rocky Gap*	*0*
2	*Ft. Chiswell*	*0*
2	*Galax*	*1*
2	*Rocky Gap*	*0*
2	*Grayson*	*1*
2	*Grayson*	*0*
1	*Narrows*	*2*
2	*Ft. Chiswell*	*0*

WON 9 LOST -1

Four players received All District titles

The Lady Rocket Varsity Volleyball team kicked off the 1996 season through hard work and lots of practice. Coach Teena Morefield could be heard from the sidelines, "I don't see much daylight under your feet", as players tried to take a smash across the net. They scrambled low (sometimes belly to the floor) and high to capture and return a serve from opponents. An emotional parent's night was held at the last home game.

Named to All District First Team were Pachess Umbarger and Rae Romano. Receiving honorable mention were Leslie Kelley and Melanie Talbert.



Pachess Umbarger goes after this one with a vengence with assistance from Amie Goss and Leslie Kelley.



Leslie Kelley sends this ball flying across the net.





VARSITY VOLLEYBALL-**Front row:** Tanya Sarver, Lisa Owens, Leslie Kelley. **2nd row:** Faye Wolfe, Pachess Umbarger, Amie Goss. **Back row:** Melanie Talbert, Hanne Evensen, Rae Romano.



Amie Goss's attempt falls inches short of going over the net.



SCOREBOARD
Varsity Volleyball

US		THEM
1	*Narrows*	*2*
0	*Galax*	*2*
2	*Rocky Gap*	*0*
2	*Ft. Chiswell*	*1*
0	*Galax*	*2*
2	*Rocky Gap*	*0*
1	*Grayson*	*2*
0	*Grayson*	*2*
0	*Narrows*	*2*
2	*Ft. Chiswell*	*0*

WON - 4 LOST - 6

4th place in District

TOP: Melanie Talbert dives to the floor to successfully save the volley. Lending assistance is Hanne Evensen.





ABOVE: Tanya Sarver bump sets to Hanne Evensen.

LEFT: Rae Romano saves the ball from near death with teammates Faye Wolfe and Lisa Owens.

Varsity Baseball Region C semi-finalist

Hours of hard work, sweat, and lots of determination paid off for the varsity Rockets. After an 8-5 season, the Rockets went into the MED tournament. They impressively outscored the Rocky Gap Eagles and squeaked by the Fort Chiswell Pioneers. They were overcome in the finals, but still made it to the regionals, where they lost in the first round to Lebanon. Bradley Tate, Monty Matthews, and David Alan Lambert were named to all-district first team, while John Thompson, Allen Brown, and Brock Justice were named to the second team. Those receiving honorable mention were Justin Eaton, Jason Hancock, and Jamie Dunn. JV Rockets finishes with a 7-3 record.









TOP: Allen Brown winds up for the pitch.

BOTTOM: Monty Matthews dives for first base.

TOP: David Lambert tags out a Grayson County player.

BOTTOM: **Varsity Baseball team-Front row:** Justin Eaton, Bradley Gordon, Jeremy Dillow, Brian Waddle, Jamie Dunn, John Thompson, Monty Matthews. **2nd row:** Ben Chewning, Brock Justice, Jason Hancock, James Umbarger, Allen Brown, Robbie Chewning, Bradley Tate, David Alan Lambert.



JV Baseball team-Front row: Adam Faulkner, Isaac Tyeryar, Adam Carroll, T. J. Thompson. Back row: Jamie Dunn, Jason Hancock, John Thompson, Jeremy Dillow.

VARSITY BASEBALL

US	Opponent	THEM
2	Shawsville	5
7	Shawsville	4
14	Rocky Gap	2
15	Galax	4
8	Narrows	3
0	Grayson Co.	10
1	Galax	7
8	Fort Chiswell	6
7	Rocky Gap	3
11	Narrows	10
1	Grayson Co.	16
6	Galax	5
4	Fort Chiswell	7

WON-8 LOST-5
Tournament 3-3 Overall 11-8



JV BASEBALL

US	Opponent	THEM
18	Fries	9
15	Carroll Co.	4
10	Narrows	2
7	Carroll Co.	0*
0	Grayson Co.	16
7	Fries	13
5	Fort Chiswell	11
15	Narrows	9
14	Galax	10
12	Fort Chiswell	2

WON-7 LOST-3

*Forfeit

CENTER: Josh Breedlove prepares to pitch to a Galax batter.

BOTTOM: Adam Faulkner tags out a sliding player at second.



Tennis team continued to rally against opponents

Bland High School's tennis team continued to strengthen their skills and expertise during the 1995 tennis season. Under the direction of Mrs. Patty Hankins, the six member team played nine scheduled games within the Mountain Empire School District. With many practices, and after school discussions, team members stored memories of tennis and valuable team work. Although this group won only two of the nine games, first seated Rae Romano and Amy Hanshew played doubles in the final tournaments. These girls lost to Grayson County in the first round; however, they were encouraged to continue practice and hard work for next year's team.





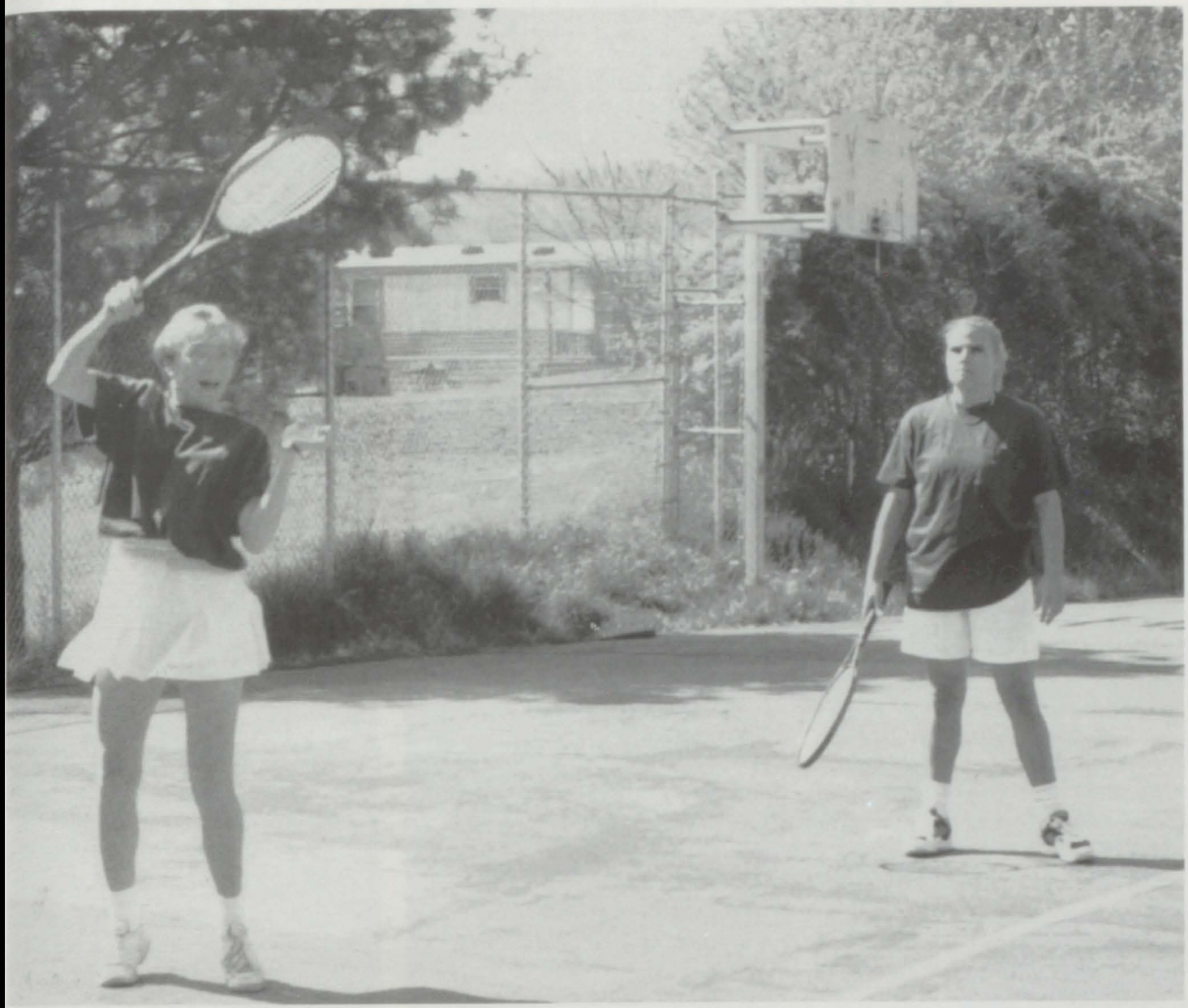


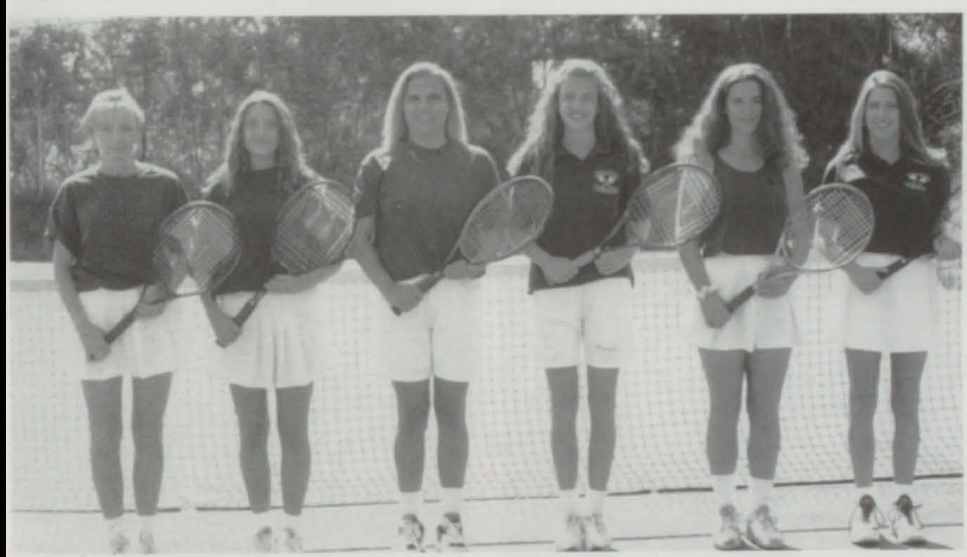
TOP: Rae Romano stoops to return a serve from the opposing team.

BOTTOM LEFT: Pachess Umbarger uses a high left swing to return the hit.

BOTTOM RIGHT: Amy Hanshew and Charlotte Nunn warm-up prior to a match.

Shannon Enoch demonstrates serving technique while Pachess Umbarger views from the sideline.





Girl's tennis team: Shannon Enoch, Charlotte Nunn, Pachess Umbarger, Ashley Havens, Rae Romano, and Amy Hanshew.

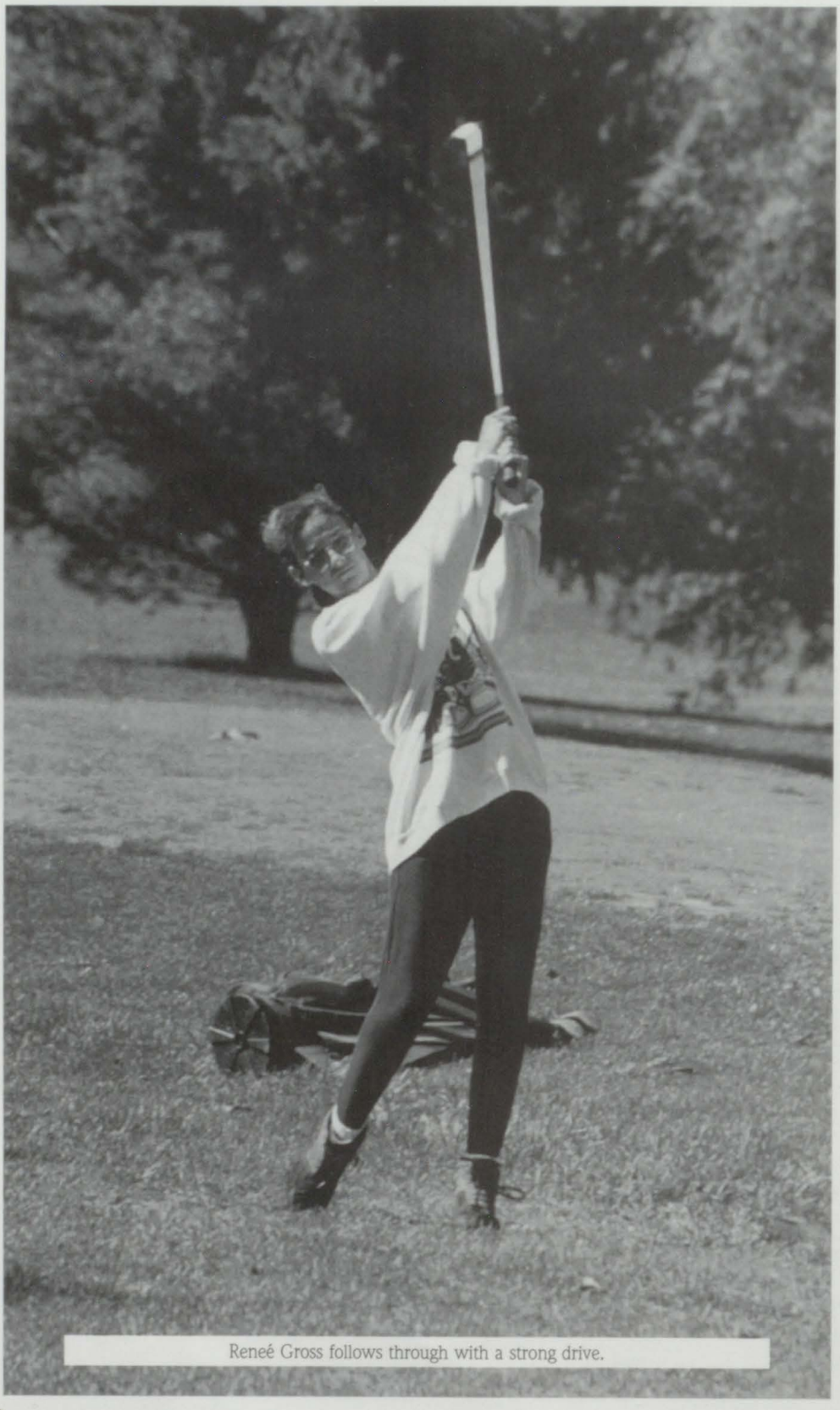
TENNIS SCOREBOARD

7	*Narrows*	*2*
0	*Grayson*	*9*
1	*Ft. Chiswell*	*8*
0	*Shawsville*	*9*
0	*Galax*	*9*
8	*Narrows*	*1*
0	*Grayson*	*9*
0	*Galax*	*9*
0	*Ft. Chiswell*	*9*

WON-2 LOST-7

Golf Team Drives Forward

The eight members of the 1995 BHS golf team accumulated an 18-6 record to earn the title of runner up district champs and a berth in the regional play-off for the second year in a row. Coached by principal, Roger Thompson, the team was made up of two juniors, two sophomores, and four freshmen.



Reneé Gross follows through with a strong drive.

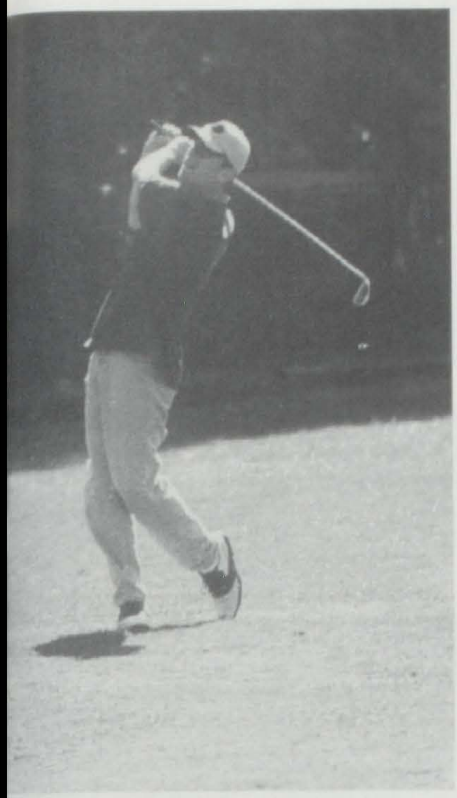




TOP: Adam Faulkner sizes up the situation.

BOTTOM: Jamie Dunn is anxious about where t ball will land.

John C. Thompson makes a solid left-hand drive.





Coach Roger Thompson follows his team on the greens of Wolf Creek Golf Course.



Framed in natural beauty, Jeremy Dillow observes the route of his drive.

Golf Scoreboard

US	OPPONENT	THEM
1	*Shawsville*	*0*
2	*Shawsville*	*0*
2	*Grayson*	*0*
0	*Narrows*	*1*
3	*Ft. Chiswell*	*0*
1	*Rocky Gap*	*1*
1	*Grayson*	*0*
1	*Rocky Gap*	*0*
1	*George Wythe*	*1*
1	*Galax*	*0*
1	*George Wythe*	*2*
4	*MED TOURNAMENT*	*1*

WON - 18 **LOST - 6**



GOLF TEAM-Front row: Adam Faulkner, Ricky Sarver, Reneé Gross, Josh Breedlove.

Back row: Jeremy Dillow, John Curtis Thompson, Jamie Dunn, Brent Tate.

Elementary Field Day

Sunny skies and cool breezes filled the air as young athletes enjoyed the 1995 Elementary Field Day on May 11 and 12. With a holiday atmosphere, many teachers and students were seen involved in various levels of competition and feats. Parents were out among the different grade levels volunteering their support and offering technical assistance. As the day waned on, an exhausted but pride-filled elementary body climbed the hill back up to the school filled with yet another year of awards, ribbons, and pride.

LEFT: Samantha Foglesong, Brandi Walker, and Kendell Stuart are the festivities' "bag ladies."

TOP RIGHT: Joey Pauley participates in various activities

BOTTOM RIGHT: The finish line is just a hop and skip away for Dana Umbarger







Children return to school after their long hard day



Last toss for the winner of the ring- toss game





BELOW: Standing on bridge children take time to pose for picture as they advance to the next competition.





ABOVE: Eager to see the outcome of her toss!

ABOVE: Kids of all ages compete with great determination to win.

Around and About the Two Schools

Around and about the two schools an onlooker would find just about anything or anyone involved in any number of activities from casual to formal. Students from both schools were captured during serious and not so serious moments of school life. The best part of the school day ranged from an evening ball game to an after-prom all night party.

The Echo Staff was especially challenged this past school year to try and capture a story of the two schools in candid photographs. Both the staff and the people photographed enjoyed this challenge. The sampling of school life demonstrated the diversity of both the elementary and the secondary schools.

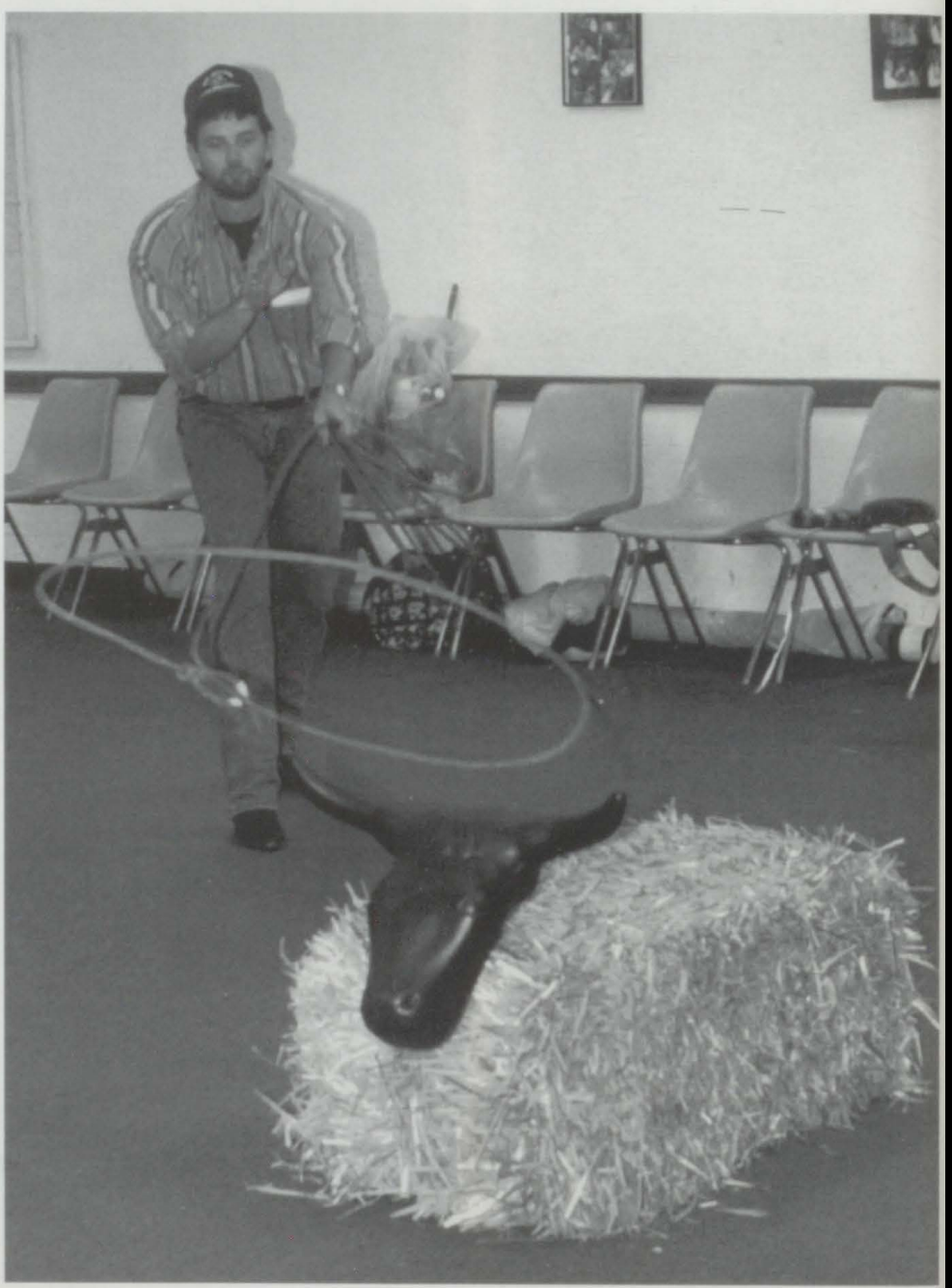




TOP LEFT: Elementary Students enjoy library time as scheduled -throughout the week. Each class is permitted this time for pleasure reading and/or searching for some special topic.

LEFT: Mrs. Lana Hall and son take in a basketball game where Shane Hall (husband and father) coaches the eighth grade team, his first coaching job during this school year.

BELOW: Kevin Johnson tries to rope the bull at the all night prom party.





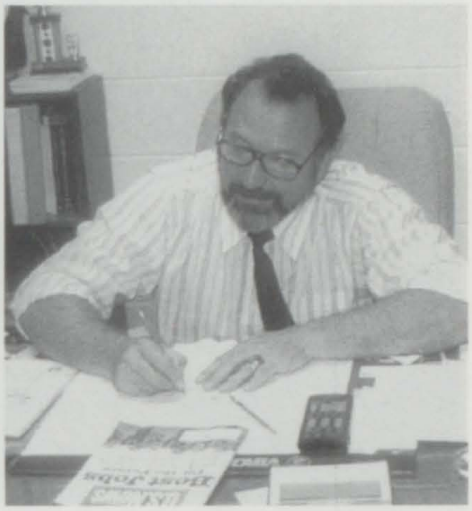
LEFT: Keri Blankenship moves across the stage after accepting certificate at Elementary Spelling Bee.

CENTER: John Thompson and Marie Dotson slow dance at Miss Echo Dance.

BELOW: Mr. Roger Thompson, principal, at his desk during the school day.

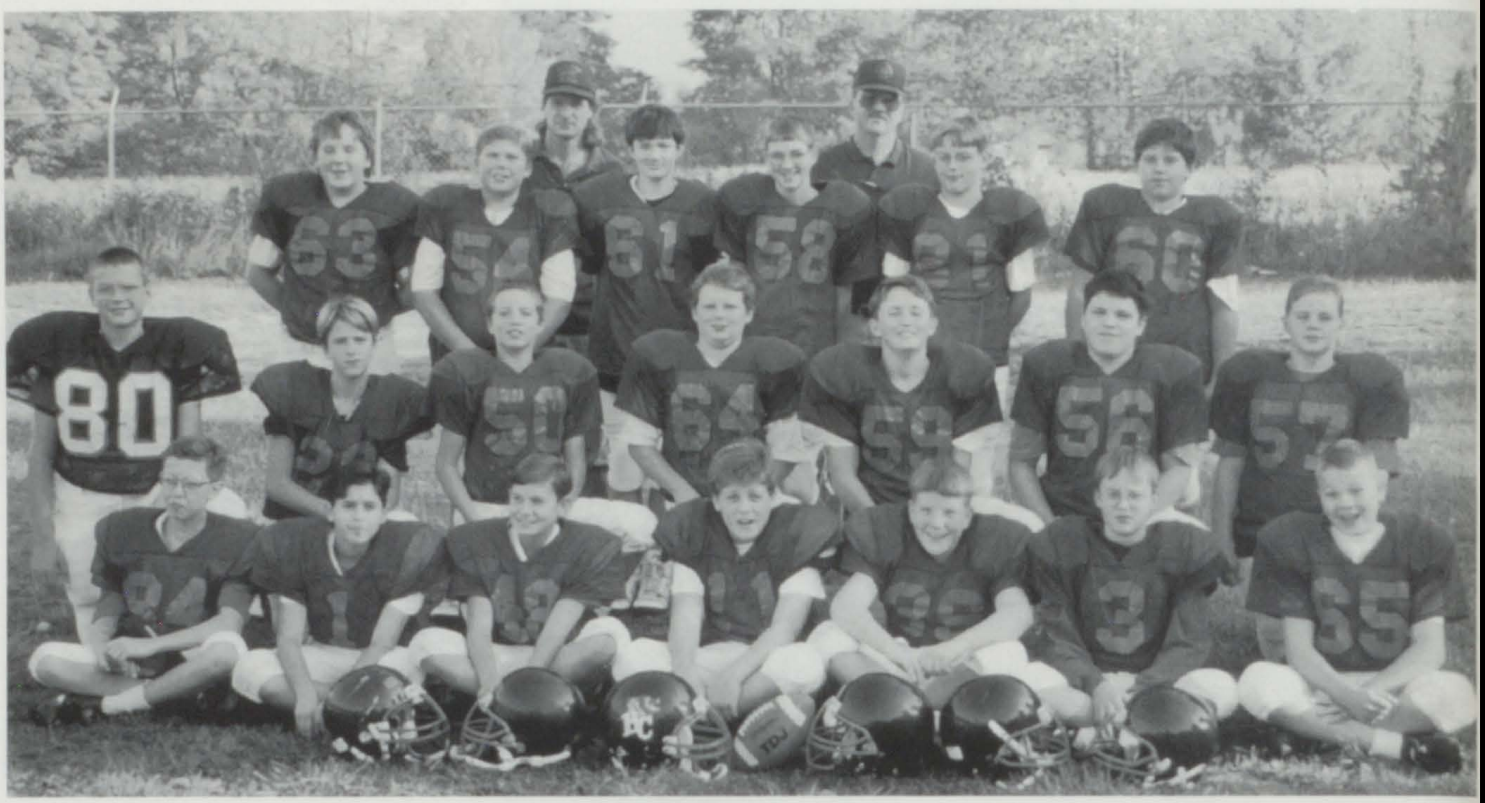
BOTTOM: Debbie Munsey, Kelly Dunn, and Ashley Havens visit during school dance.



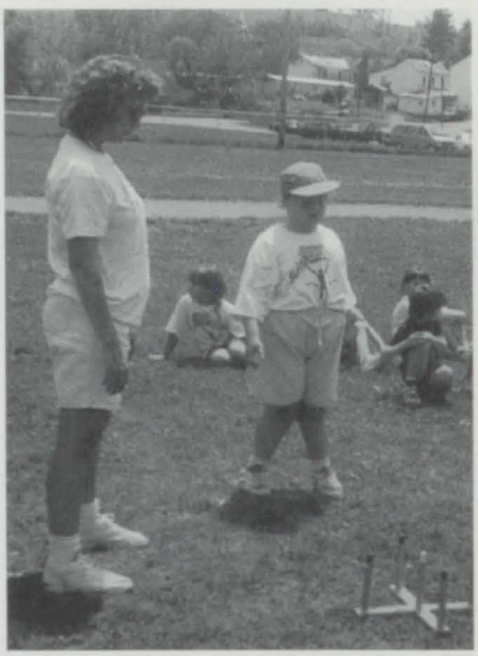


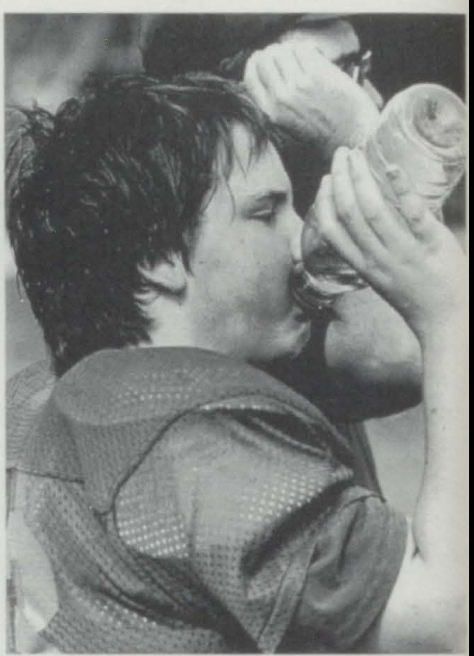


BELOW-MIDGET FOOTBALL-Front row: Ben May, Chase Thomas, Allen Kistler, Casey Elliott, Aaron Wolfe, Sam Wright and Joseph Jackson. **2nd row:** Ben Leighton, Chad Trexler, Jeffrey Johnson, Reggie Meadows, Justin Musick, Larry Howell and Adam Goforth. **3rd row:** J.R. Shewey, Christopher Reese, Josh Olinger, Curtis Brewer, Shane Thompson, James Williams and Richard Bours. **Back row:** Coaches Jeff Buchanan, Ernie Brewer. *Not pictured: Brandon Anders, Kurt Blankenship, Brian Simms and William Neal.*











ABOVE: Sarah Smith doesn't look like Sarah.
ABOVE CENTER: Cindy Wright and Kelsey Groseclose at ring toss.
ABOVE RIGHT: J.R. Shewey refuels during a football game.
RIGHT: Nadine Bridges helps children check out library books.





TOP: Sanders Matz and Jim Corder visit during the Lord's Acre Sale.
ABOVE PEE WEE FOOTBALL-**Front row:** Dana Umbarger, Kevin Wimmer, Lee Bailey, Derek Parker and Dustin Carter. **2nd row:** Logan Tate, Todd Scott, Chris Dillow, Dustin Riggins, Edward Farmer and David Pike. **3rd row:** Shaun Carroll, James Belcher II, Daryl Stanley, Brandon Kelley, Stevie Howell, Cody Agee and Thomas Olinger. **Back row:** Coaches Stephen Kelley, Kevin May and Kim Wright. Not pictured: Jason Musick.

Involved

A day at school involved many people, places, and things. It took more than just the A B C's of school life to complete the many phases of a finished day. There were awards to be given and received, people to encourage and congratulate, and celebrations for whom we wished to say goodby and good luck. Such as these were our involvements.



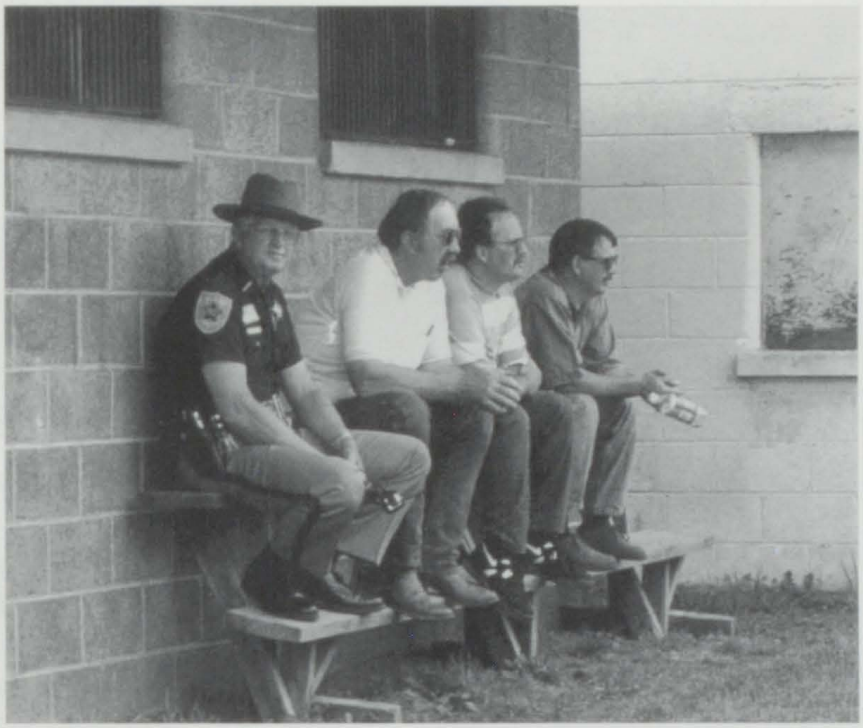
TOP RIGHT: Amie Goss eagerly receives an award from Mr. Smith

BOTTOM LEFT: Zachary Pauley receives Spelling Bee honors and ribbon from teacher Mrs. Rachelle Nelson

BOTTOM RIGHT: Mrs. June Miller enters the refreshment line as the guest of honor at her after-school retirement party attended by both elementary and secondary faculty members.



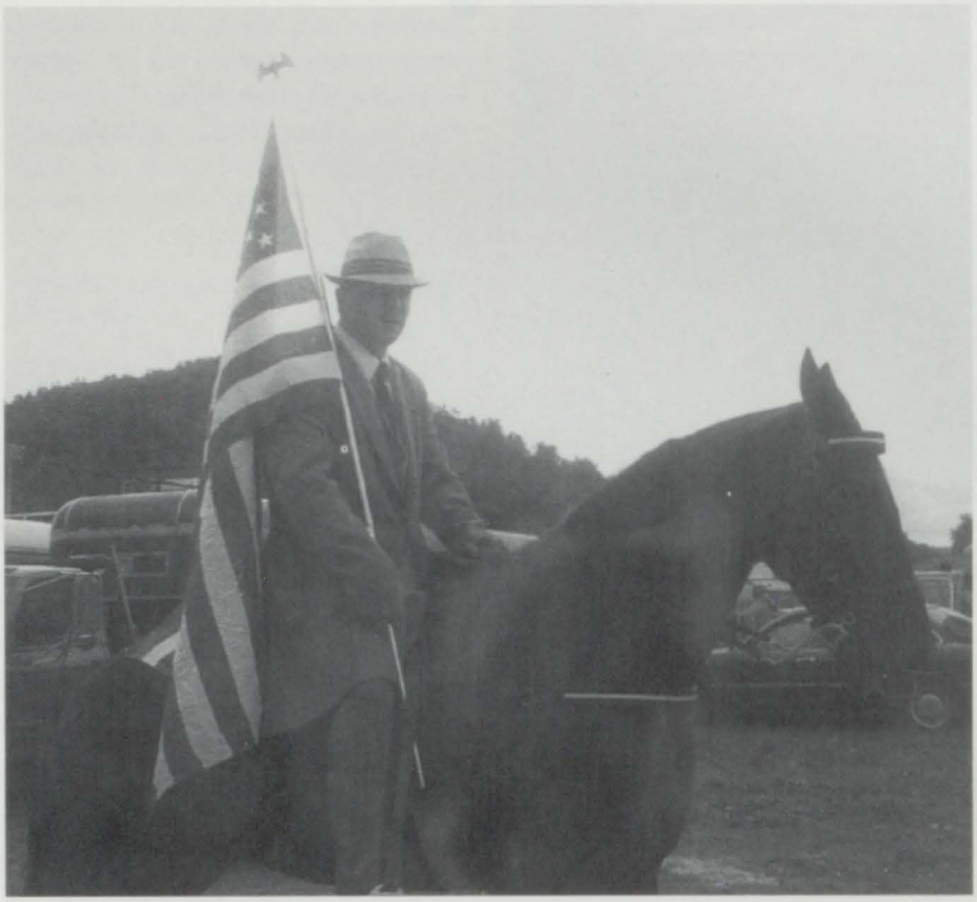




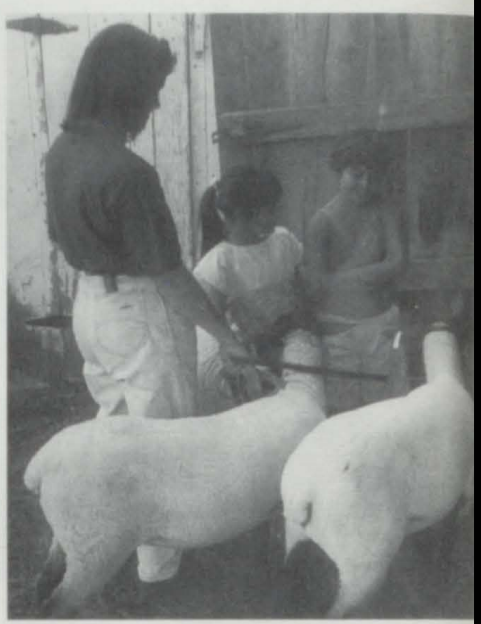
Community Life

Bland County Fair . . . "a time-honored tradition"

Labor Day weekend was the onset of the traditional Bland County Fair. Agricultural and livestock exhibits were strategically placed and scheduled to provide many with a view into rural life. Families gathered to take in the numerous shows, games, performances, and activities. Fair weekend also gave citizens and students a time to visit and reflect upon fairs present and past. It was a common sight to see families and friends gathered around truck beds, barn stalls, or an exciting carnival attraction just enjoying the beautiful weather and the traditional county fair.



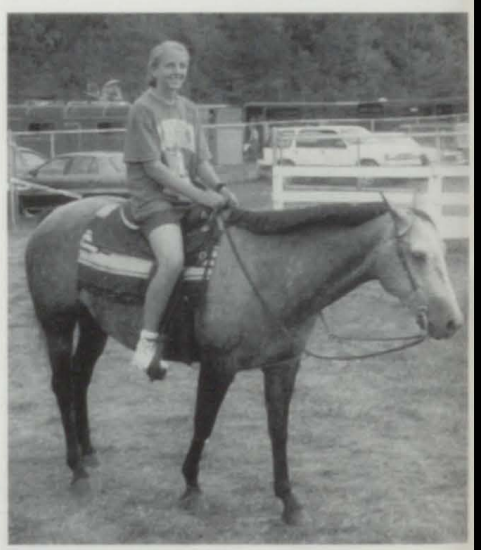
ABOVE: Ben Dillow opens the horse show by carrying the U.S. flag during the National Anthem.



ABOVE: Crystal McGuire at sheep show.



ABOVE: Brandon Faulkner looks on while Sally Hylton takes competitor's information.



ABOVE: Leslie Gordon warms up prior to class.

BELOW: Tyler and Katlin Eastep wait patiently outside barn until their turn to show sheep.



BELOW: Three generations of Penleys: Becky Penley, Jim Bob Penley, Bobby Penley, and Robert Penley.



BELOW: Sherry Faulkner and costumed dog.



A jaunt of a weekend

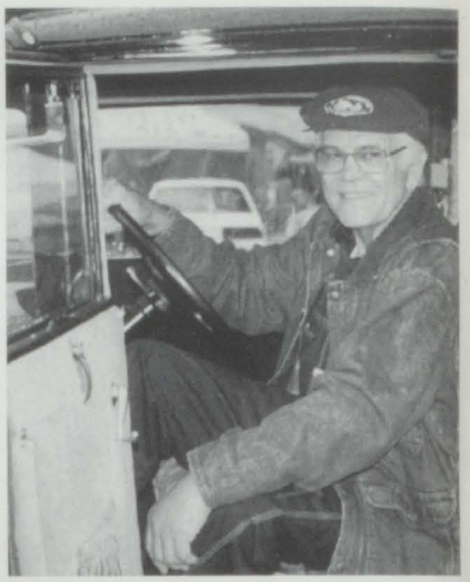
Brilliant hues of God's paintbrush splashed across the landscape as the 2nd annual Festival of Leaves celebration got under way. Tents with vendors goods, and booths of food dotted the area known as Bland Square. Matching the fall foliage were rainbow colored ponchos and umbrellas to ward off the continuous deluges of rain. Strings of white lights brightened the surrounding panorama with flags draped from posts and hay bales and corn shocks adorning each corner.

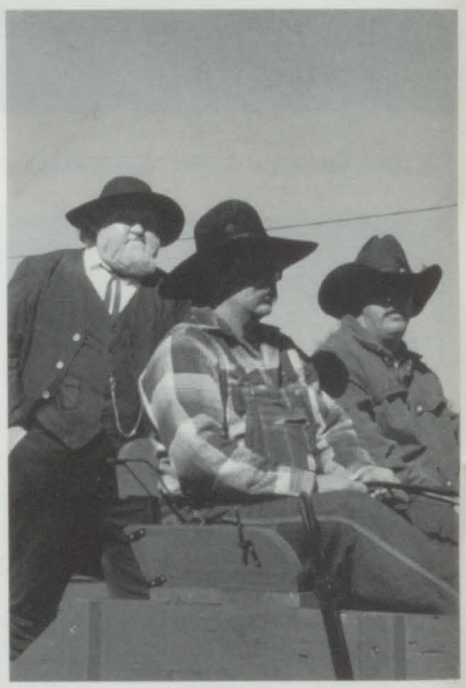
Local artisans displayed their wares of musical instruments, clocks, painting/photos, along with student project exhibits. Vintage cars were seen on the corner and usage of farm machinery/equipment from another day was demonstrated.

A petting zoo and games kept the children interested while story telling was a pleasure to all who listened. Music, dancing and cake walks provided additional entertainment. A county choir rendered favorite hymn selections at two sessions as the festivities ground to a close.



Ed Wimmer demonstrates forging metals.





TOP: Charlie Cox proudly displays his "old car", given to him by his daughter.
BOTTOM: Riding in the style of yesteryear are Jerry Vencil, Calvin Davis, and Terry Mustard.











TOP LEFT: Flag girls at opening exercises on Saturday.

TOP RIGHT: Kirsten Schoenthal displays her fall items for sale.

RIGHT: In spite of the rain, Frank Chandler scoops ice cream with gusto.

CENTER LEFT: Children gaze into cages at the petting zoo, looking for poultry and animals.

BOTTOM: With rapt attention Mike Pruett listens to the storyteller, Jerry Vencil.

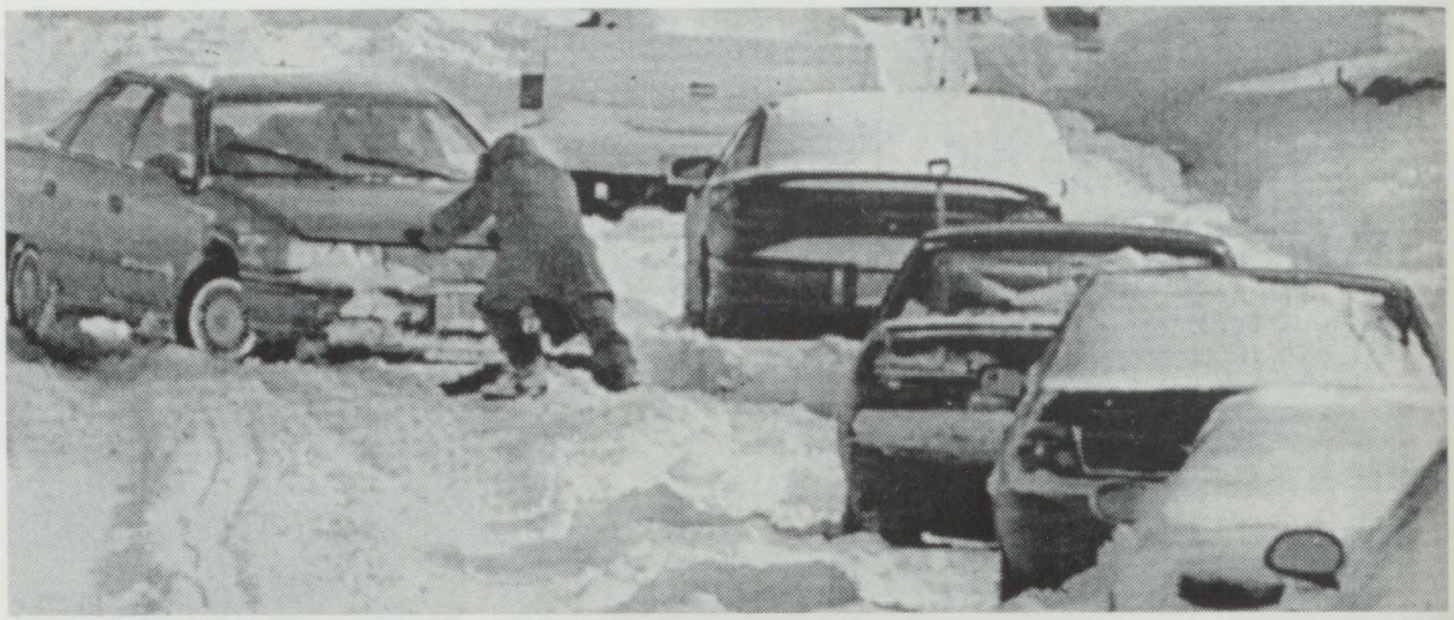
The World Around Us

Student life was greatly affected by the world events that surrounded us. Blanketed by our rural community, we were secure in the knowledge that that world was awaiting us. Advanced technology gave us views of this world and shaped and altered the course of our lives.

With the new computer age, the "great big world" was invited into our lives through the informational highway. This was the first year that a modem was available in the library. Students were able to access information from university libraries, chat on line with people around the world, and research information on virtually any topic from any given source.

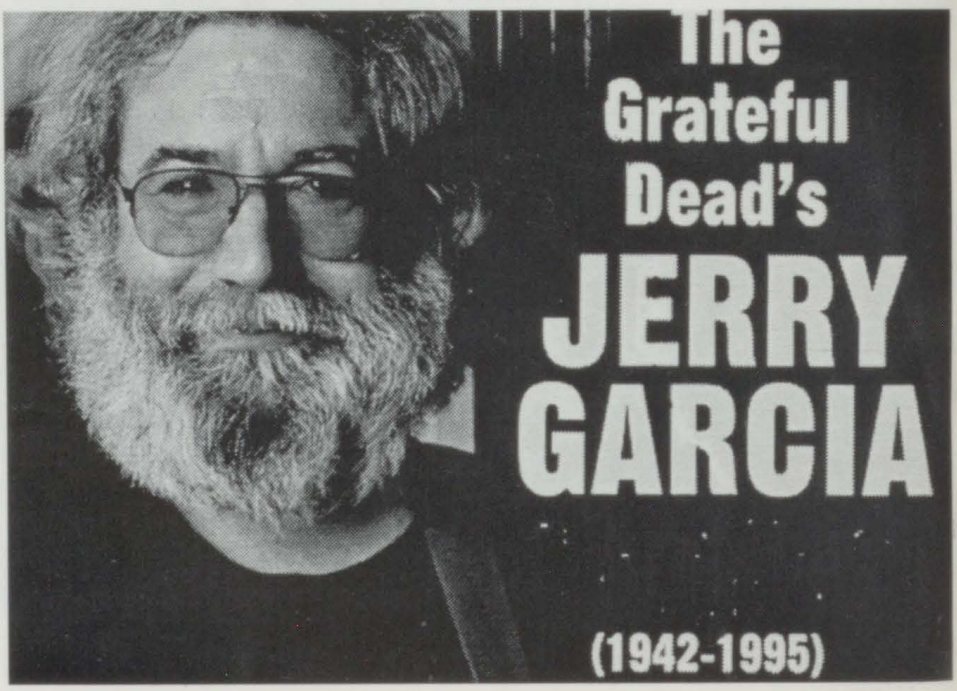
We watched as the Blizzard of 96 stormed through and around us closing school for a week. Other snows and minor storms totaled twenty missed school days. We kept current on world events and stayed tuned for those happenings that would affect us either directly or indirectly.

We were stunned by the death of rock's Jerry Garcia and waited patiently for a vertict from the O.J. Simpson trial. We were saddened by the Oklahoma City tragedy, and excited by the Cal Ripken victory. We suffered with the Bosnians and watched the Million-Man March.



ABOVE: The winter storm of 1996 dumped between two and three feet of snow upon Southwest Virginia closing school for over a week. Many state roads were unpassable for days, and parts of VA and WVA were declared emergency areas.

Although there were many world events that occured during school year 1995-96, the yearbook staff selected what they thought to be the most prominent sampling of these events. We will be able to go back into our memories and our yearbooks to remember some of the events that we will be able to tell our children and our grandchildren. These were the stories of our youth.

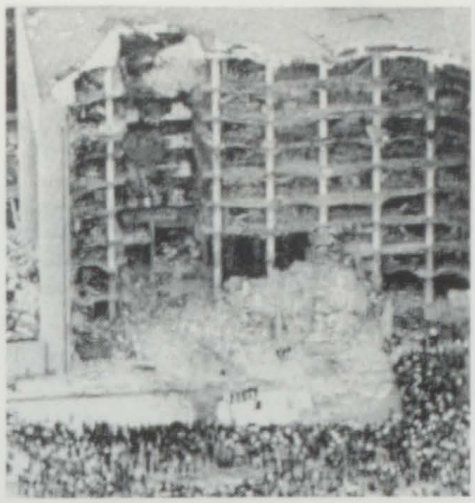


RIGHT: Many Grateful Dead fans were shocked and saddened by the loss of one of Rock's finest musicians and performers, Jerry Garcia. He helped to shape the rock culture of the past and the present. His music will continue to be a favorite.

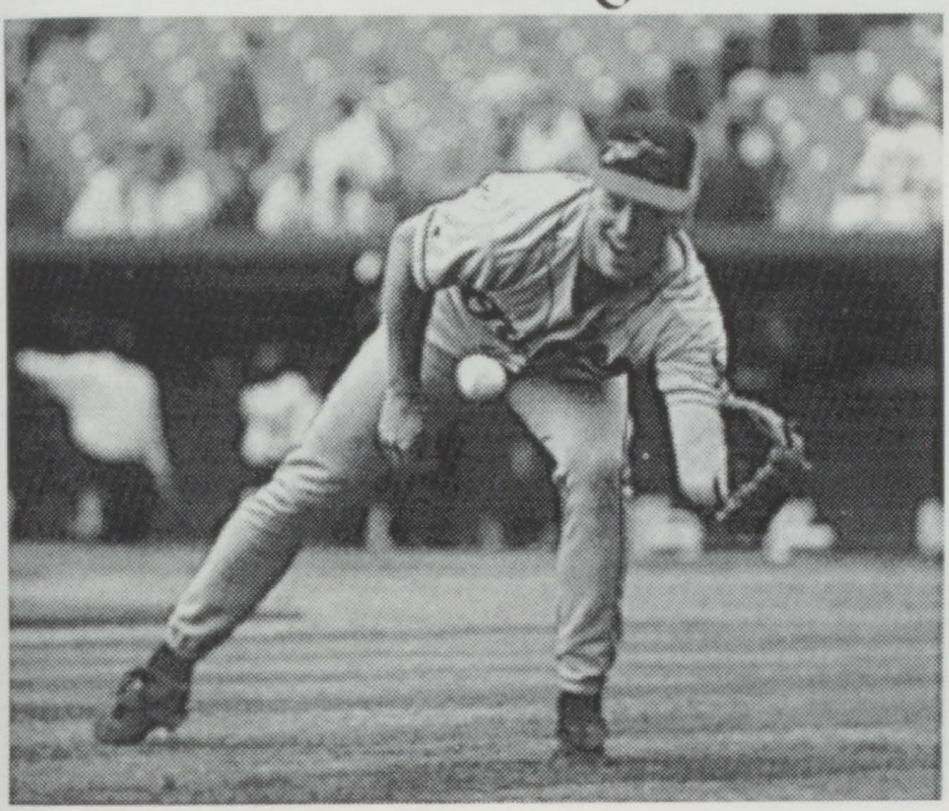
BELOW: A gravesite picture of a Bosnian death. America watched the war-torn country of Bosnia hoping that peace could soon be seen in eastern Europe. As death tolls increased, the country was torn physically, emotionally, and spiritually.

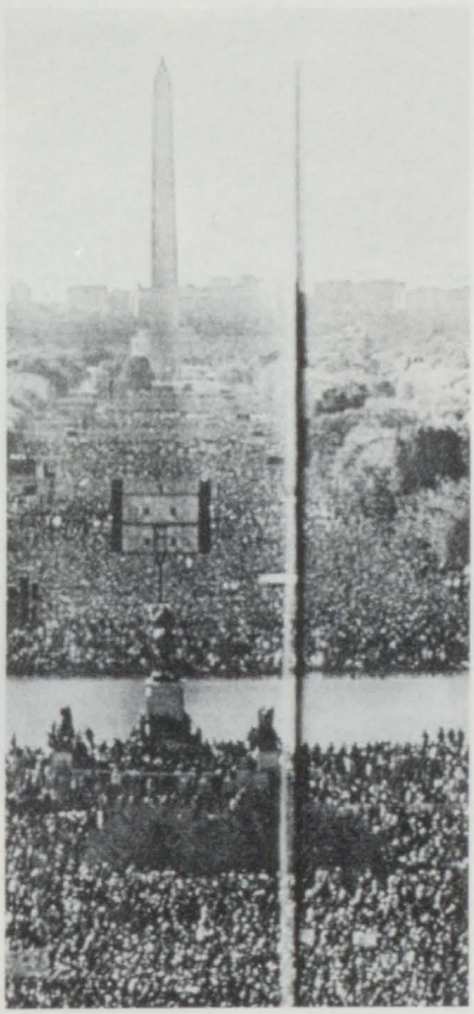


BELOW: The federal building in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma where many lives were tragically lost.

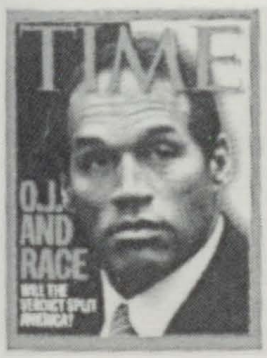


Hindsight 1995 - 96





ABOVE LEFT: Cal Ripken sets record.
ABOVE: The Million-Man March on the nation's capitol.
LEFT: The O.J. Simpson trial.



O.J. Simpson and the Issue of Race

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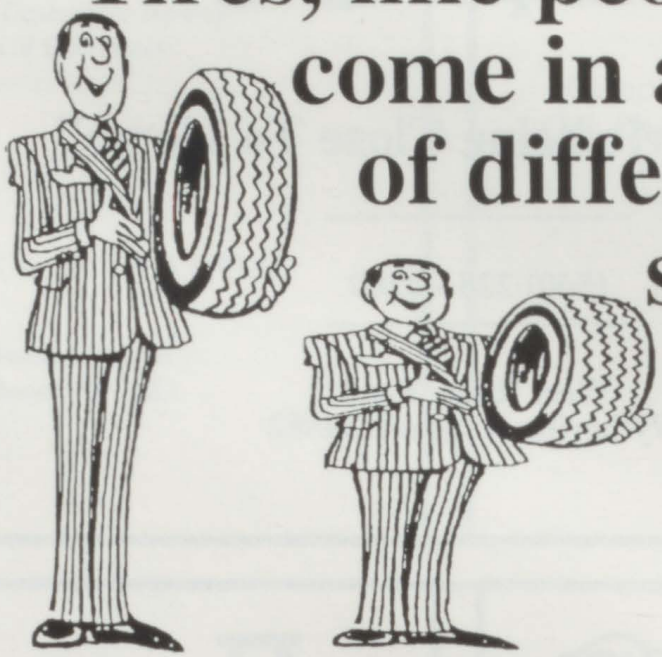
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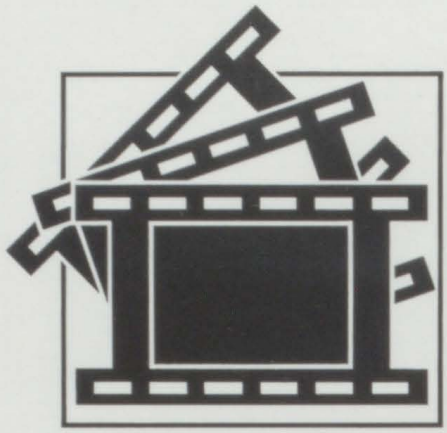
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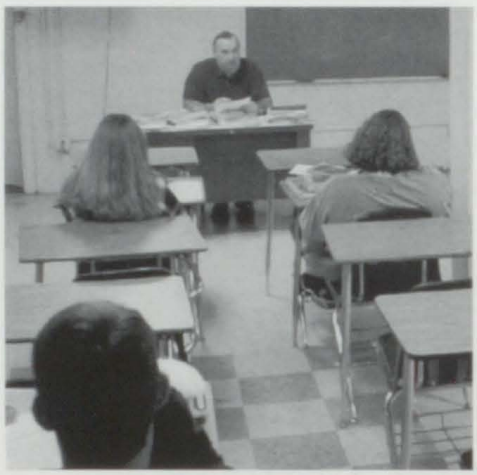
Member FDIC



TOP RIGHT: Teachers use new computer grading system to record term grades, Debbie Whitt and Sandra Harman.

BELOW: New "kid" on the block, Mr. John Chmara, checks assignments with students.







ABOVE: Ashley Havens, Stephanie Kelley, and Brooke Kitts fill up on pizza at the FBLA party.
BOTTOM RIGHT: Judging and voting for the ugliest of the uglies (or best costume) is accomplished by loudest clapping. Winner was Jason Hancock on the left.



Amusement or frustration are mirrored in the actions of Jermiah Tate, Matthew Brunk, Jeff Brunk, and Nikki Elliott.







CENTER: Boosters provide concessions at game — Curly Pauley, Mary Smith, Alice Umbarger, Sharon Meadows, Karen Dunn, Connie Puckett.

BOTTOM: Mrs. Norma Newberry and Ms. Kadi Woods monitor activities at 1995 Elementary Field Day.



While studying weights and measurements this fourth grader, Autumn Haynes, decided to start a new fashion by using her tape measure as a neat belt.

Senior Credits

Amanda Elizabeth Baldwin
Al & Irma Baldwin; **Clubs:** FHA (8-9); **Sports:** Volleyball (9-11)

Chris Beaman
Robert & Euginia Beaman **Honors:** 2nd Team all District Offence Football (12); **Clubs:** FFA (12), FHA (12); **Sports:** Football (8-12)

Sheri Lynn Blankenship
Danny & Bonnie Blankenship; **Honors:** English (9), Keyboarding (9), Word Processing 1st place regional (11), FBLA community service project 3rd place state (11), Latin Cum Lauda (9); **Offices:** Jr Beta Vice President (9), Jr Class Secretary (11), Class Secretary (12), Beta Vice President (11), FBLA Vice President (11), SCA Vice President (11,12); **Clubs:** Library (9), SCA (8-12), FBLA (9-11), Jr Beta (9), Sr Beta (10-12), Newspaper (8-10,12); **Sports:**Jv Basketball (9), Varsity Basketball (10-12), 8th grade Cheerleading Co Captain (8), Jv Cheerleading (9-10) Co Captain (10), Varsity Cheerleading (11-12) Co Captain (12), **Other:**All Around Macc (9), Miss Echo 1st runner-up (10), Sweetheart Candidate (9), Upward Bound (8), Prom Committee (11), Basketball Homecoming (10-12), Football Homecoming (12), Who's Who Among American High School Students (11)

Anthony Wayne Bruce
Riley & Linda Bruce; **Honors:** Forestry Judging Team medal (8-12), FFA Greenhand, FFA Chapter Degree, Perfect Attendance (8-9); **Offices:** VICA treasurer (11); **Clubs:** FFA (8-12), VICA (11-12).

Cheryl Lyn Brunk
John & Betsy Brunk; **Honors:** Volleyball letter; **Offices:** FBLA Reporter (12), Yearbook Business Manager (12); **Clubs:** FBLA (11-12), FHA (10-12), Newspaper Staff (10-12), Photography (10-12), Yearbook Staff (12), 4H (9-12), Choir (11), Pep Squad (11); **Sports:** Volleyball(10-11); **Other:** Educational Talent Search (8-12), Perfect Attendance (8-10)

Mattew Neal Brunk
Barbara Brunk **Offices:** FFA Sentinel ( ), **Clubs:** FFA ( ), VICA ( )

Charlie Neal Corder
Fred Corder **Clubs:** FFA (8-12), VICA (11-12).

Billie Jo Crabtree
William & Brenda Crabtree **Honors:** Who's Who Among American High School Students (11), Stan Greenhand (8), Snow Court Queen (12); **Offices:** FFA President (11-12), FFA Secretary (8), FFA Treasurer (9), Federation FFA Treasurer (10) Federation FFA President (12), FFA Vice President of HOSA (11); **Clubs:** FFA (8-12), HOSA (11), Jr Beta (10), Beta (11-12), Forensics (9-10), Newspaper Staff (8); **Sports:** Jv Basketball (9,11), Tennis (9,11)

Robert Holbrook Dillow
Robert & Karen Dillow Jr. **Honors:** Most Improved Musician Award (9), FFA Greenhand Award (9); **Offices:** Vice President of Sophmore Class (10), Bland County Band Brigade Commander (9), Bland County Band Drum Captain (11-12); **Clubs:** Band

Hanne Beate Evensen
Kjellrunn & Arnt Evensen **Offices:** 4-H President (12); **Clubs:** Beta (12), 4-H (12); **Sports:** Varsity Volleyball (12), Varsity Basketball (12)

Anita Fay French
Wallace & Lucy French **Offices:** Chaplin FHA (11-12), Vice President/President Photography (11-12); **Clubs:** French, Upward Bound, Home ec, FHA, Liabrary, Photography, FBLA, Choir; **Sports:** Volleyball (9)

Amie Sue Goss
Robert Goss **Honors:** Vocational Education Star Award (12), Civics Award (8), Biology Award (11), Volleyball letter (11), Basketball (11), Basketball insert/bar (12); **Offices:** Secretary (9); **Clubs:** FFA (8), newspaper (8-10), Jr. Beta (9), Library Club (9), FBLA (9-10), French (10), Forensics (10), Senior Beta (10-11); **Sports:** 8th grade cheerleader, J.V. cheerleader (9-10), Basketball J.V (9), Varsity basketball (10-12), J.V. volleyball (10), Varsity volleyball (11-12); **Other:** Snow Court 2nd runner-up (8), Miss BHS 2nd runner-up (11)

Jamie Renee Goss
Robert Goss **Honors:** Office Systems Award (11); **Offices:** Vice President (8), J.R Beta Tresurer (9); **Clubs:** J.R. Beta (9), Library club (9), FBLA (9), FHA (9-12), Newspaper (8-11), Upward Bound (9-12), Sr. Beta (10-11); **Sports:** JV Cheerleading (9-10), Jv girls basketball (8-9), Varsity basketball (10-12), Jv volleyball (10), Varsity volleyball (11), 8th grade cheerleading; **Other:** Who's who (11-12), Snow Court Canidate (9), Homecoming Basketball Canidate (9,11)

Ashley Amanda Jackson
David & Brenda Jackson **Offices:** Treasurer (10); **Clubs:** Band (8-10), French(8-10), DECA (10), VICA (11-12), Cosmetology (11-12), FHA (10)

Dana Michelle Jessee
Peggy Lawson & Jerry Jessee **Honors:** A/B honor roll (10), merit winner (10), student of the six weeks (9-10); **Clubs:** VICA (9-11), FHA (12)

Leslie Annette Kelley
Ken Kelley & Cindy Stepp **Honors:** U.S History Award (11), 3rd place public speaking in FBLA (10), 1st place girls oratory in forensics (District) (11), 3rd place girls oratory in forensics (Regional) (11), Honorable mention on national Latin exam (9), honor letter (11); **Offices:** Beta club (10-12), Junior Beta (9), forensics (9-12), newspaper staff (8-12), FBLA (9-10), SCA (10-12); **Sports:** Basketball cheerleading (8-12), Co-Captain football chearleading (12), Co-Captain tennis (9-10), basketball (9), volleyball (10-12); **Other:** Bland County Band (8), Perfect Attendance (11), 1995 football homecoming queen (11), 1st place storytelling in forensics (District) (12), homecoming court -basketball (8), homecoming court -football (10), all district honorable mention in volleyball (12), 1st runner-up Miss Echo (12)

Joseph Brian Lambert
Wayne Lambert **Honors:** Varsity football and basketball letter (11); **Clubs:** Beta (10-12), Jr. Beta (9), SCA (9-12), Band (8-9); **Sports:** J.V basketball (10), Basketball (8), Varsity football (10-12), Varsity basketball (10-12);

John Eric Miller
Johnny & Sandra Miller **Honors:** all district football (12); **Offices:** FFA Reporter (11), Vice President (10), Yearbook editior (12); **Clubs:** FFA (8-12), yearbook (12); **Sports:** J.V football (9), Varsity football (10-12), J.V baseball (10)

Michael Todd Morehead
James Randall & Anita Jo Morehead **Honors:** all district defensive back — football (10), all district ofensive and defensive back-football (11), 1st team all district ofensive and defensive back- football 912), 1st runner-up ofensive player of the year- football (12), DAR award (12); **Offices:** FFA Secretary (10), FFA Vice President (11); **Clubs:** FFA (8-12), FHA (11-12); **Sports:** football (8-12), Basketball (8-12)

Michael Allen Muncy
Mr. & Mrs. Charles R. Muncy Jr. **Offices:** Treasurur (8); **Clubs:** Beta (10-12), Band (8-12);

Michael Robert Munsey
Robert and Betty Munsey; **Honors:** Green Hand (8), Earth Science (10), Science Fair (10), Governor School (summer session) (11), Office Systems (11), All District Football-First team guard (12), World Geography (11); **Offices:** French Club vice-president (12), FBLA historian (11), SCA treasurer (11); **Clubs:** SCA (9-12), FBLA (10-11), Band (8-9), Beta (10-12), French (10-12), 4-H (8-12), FFA (8), Junior Beta (9); **Sports:** 8th grade basketball (8), Varsity golf (9-10), JV basketball (10), Varsity football (11-12); **Other:** Echo escort (10), Homecoming escort (12), Academic Entrichment Program (8-12), FBLA Partnership w/Business — 2nd place in state (11).

Rachel Reneé Munsey
Yvonne and Gary Munsey; **Clubs:** French (10), Key (11), Spanish (9-11), FHA (8,10), Yearbook (12), English MACC (10), Band (8-9); **Sports:** Cheerleader (8), Tennis (9), Volleyball (10,12).

Joseph Allen Neel
Della Mae Neel; **Clubs:** FFA, VICA.

Jaime Koren Newby
Mark and Denise Smith; **Honors:** Perfect Attendance (8), English (10), Biology I (10), French I (10), Biology II (11), Life Skills II (11); **Clubs:** FHA (8, 11-12), Beta (11-12), French (10-12).

Lisa Ann Owens
Gary and Joyce Owens; **Honors:** Pre-Algebra (8), Keyboarding (9), Volleyball letter and insert (10,11,12), Cross-Country certificate (8,9), Choir letter (8); **Offices: NFrench secretary (11), Class treasurer (12), FBLA secretary (9); Clubs:** FHA (8,9,12), FBLA (9), French (11), Upward Bound (11), Newspaper (10), VICA (12); **Sports:** Cross-Country (8-9), JV Volleyball (10), Varsity Volleyball (11,12); **Other:** Choir (8), Homecoming court (12).

George Edward Parmenter II (Smokey)
Larry and Betty Lane; **Honors:** Physical Education (9), 4-H Junior Leader of the week (12), 4-H camp Junior Leader of the week (11), Football - All District 1st team Offensive End and Defensive Linebacker (12) All District 2nd team Defensive Linebacker (11) District Defensive player of the year runner-up (12); **Offices:** FFA treasurer (9), FHA secretary (11), Basketball Captain (10,12), Football Captain (8,9); **Clubs:** Beta (10-12), FFA (8-11), FHA (10-12), 4-H (8-12); **Sports:** Basketball (8-12), Football (8-12), Baseball (9); **Other:** Football Homecoming KIng (12), Miss Echo escort (11), Sweetheart escort (9).

Rebekah Dawn Penley
Bobby and Brenda Penley; **Honors:** Economics (10), FBLA Word Processing (11), Life Skills I (10), Life Skills II (11), Who's Who Among American High School Students (11,12), FFA Greenhand (8); **Offices:** FFA reporter (12), FBLA historian (10), FBLA secretary (11), FBLA president (12), Class reporter (10), Class treasurer (9); **Clubs:** FBLA (9-12), FHA (11), FFA (12), Library (9), Sr. Beta (11-12), Upward Bound (8-12); **Other:** Prom Committee (11), Snow Court Candidate (10), Attended State FFA convention (11), Beta Scrapbook Committee (11), Southwest Virginia Livestock Show (10-12).

James Taylor Pike
Robert and Brenda Pike; **Honors:** Varsity Golf letter, Perfect Attendance (10); **Offices:** VICA president (11); **Clubs:** VICA (11-12), FFA (8), FBLA (10); **Sports:** JV Basketball (9-10), Eighth Basketball (8), Varsity Golf (9,10,11).

Joe Repass
Libby Repass; **Clubs:** FFA, VICA.

Melissa Corey Richardson
Allen and Sheila Richardson; **Honors:** Latin Cum Lauda (9), FBLA Career Manual-1st Regional and 2nd State (10), Forensics Extemporaneous - 1st District 2nd Regional (11), English (8-11), Physical Science (8), Earth Science (9), History (8), Latin II (10), US History (11), World Geography (9), Honor letter and bars (9-11), MACC Letter/Bar (8-11), VHSL Academic Award (10); **Offices:** Jr. Beta president (9), Class secretary (8); **Clubs:** 4-H (8-12), FHA (8), FBLA (9-10, Upward Bound (8-11), SCA (9), All Around MACC (9), Social Studies MACC (8), Science MACC (9-12), Forensics (9-12), Newspaper (8-12), Sr. Beta (10-11); **Sports:** JV Volleyball (9-10), Varsity Vaolleyball (11), Varsity Football Cheerleader (10); **Other:** SWVGS (11-12), Penn State Upward Bound (9-11).

Nathanial Andrew Selfe
Ed and Lori Selfe; **Honors: Varsity Basketball letter, Varsity football letter; Clubs:** FFA (8-10), FBLA (12), Photography (12); **Sports:** Basketball (8-12), Football (8-10, 12), Tennis (12).

Sarah Beth Shewey
Jimmy and Linda Shewey; **Honors:** Civics (8), Life Skills (8), Life Skills II (9); **Clubs:** FHA (8-12), 4-H (11-12) , ICT (11-12).

Brandon Schaefer Sink

Melanie Crystal Talbert
Belinda Hockett and Charles Talbert; **Offices:** Class president (8,12), FHA - recreation leader (10) reporter (11) vice-president (12), French - secretary (10) treasurer (11), Photography treasurer (11); **Clubs:** FHA (8-12), Library (9), FBLA (9,10), English MACC (10), Upward Bound (10-12), French (10-12), Photography (10-12), Yearbook (12); **Sports:** JV Volleyball (9010), Varsity Volleyball (11-12), Varsity Basketball (11).

Kary Lee Taylor
Sherry Taylor; **Clubs:** FFA (8-12), FHA (10-11), ICT (11-12); **Sports:** Football (8-10).

Linda Sue Prater Thompson
David and Charlene Prater; **Offices:** Co-captain cheerleading at Hurley; **Clubs:** FHA (11-12), Beta (11), VICA (12); **Sports:** Cheerleading (10), Basketball; **Other:** Homecoming candidate (11).

Samantha Ann Thompson
Kathy and John Thompson; **Honors:** VICA award for consistency of on-the-job training for one year (11); **Offices:** Vica parliamentarian (11); **Clubs:** fFHA(8-9), VICA (11-12); **Sports:** Volleyball (10).

Samuel Warren Tickle
Mark and Sarah Vestich; **Honors:** Physical Education (8), FBLA Regional Business Math 2nd Place (10), Snow Court King (9), Perfect Attendance (10); **Offices:** FBLA treasurer (11), French president (12), Class vice-president (12); **Clubs:** Jr. Beta (9), French (10-12), Beta (10-12), FBLA (10-11); **Sports:** Basketball (8), JV Basketball (10); **Other:** Homecoming escort Basketball (10,12), Football Homecoming escort (12).

Pachess Lee Umbarger
Alice and Gary Umbarger; **Honors:** Honor letter (11), Varsity Basketball - All District 1st team (11-12), Varsity Volleyball - District Honorable Mention (11) All District 1st team (12), Accounting (11), Snow Queen (9), Basketball Homecoming Queen (12), FBLA Accounting 1st in Regional (11); **Offices:** Library vice-president (9), 4-H - secretary (10-11) treasurer (12), FHA - sargeant-at-arms (10) 1st vice-president (11) president (12), French secretary (12), FBLA reporter (10-11), Upward Bound liason (10), Class vice-president (11); **Clubs:** FHA (8-12), Library (8-9), Newspaper (8-9), 4-H (8-12), Upward Bound (9-12), Jr. Beta (9), FBLA (9-11), Sr. Beta (10-12), French (10-12), SCA (10-12); **Sports:** JV Basketball (9), JV Volleyball (9-10), Varsity Basketball (10-12), Varsity Volleyball (11-12), Varsity Tennis (10-12); **Other:** Football Homecoming court (11), Rocket Man (12), Prom Committee (11).

Misty Dawn Wiley
Harmie and Phyllis Wiley; Honors: Math I (8), Math II (9), Perfect Attendance (8,9,11); **Clubs:** Newspaper (8-9), Jr. Beta (9), Sr. Beta (10-12), French (10-12), Talent Search (8-12); **Other:** Homecoming candidate (8).

Cheryl Dawn Winesett
Randy Jr. and Roxanne Winesett; **Honors:** Honor letter and bars (9-12), Biology I (9), US History (11), Keyboarding (9), Algebra I (8), English (8,9), Word Processing (10), Office Systems (11), Geometry (9), Physical Science (8), Biology II (11), Latin I (9); **Clubs:** Jr. Beta (9), Beta (10-12), FBLA (9-11), Newspaper (8), Band (8-9); **Sports:** JV Basketball (9), Cheerleading (8-10) co-captain (10).

Albert Ward Wolfe, Jr.



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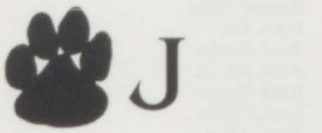
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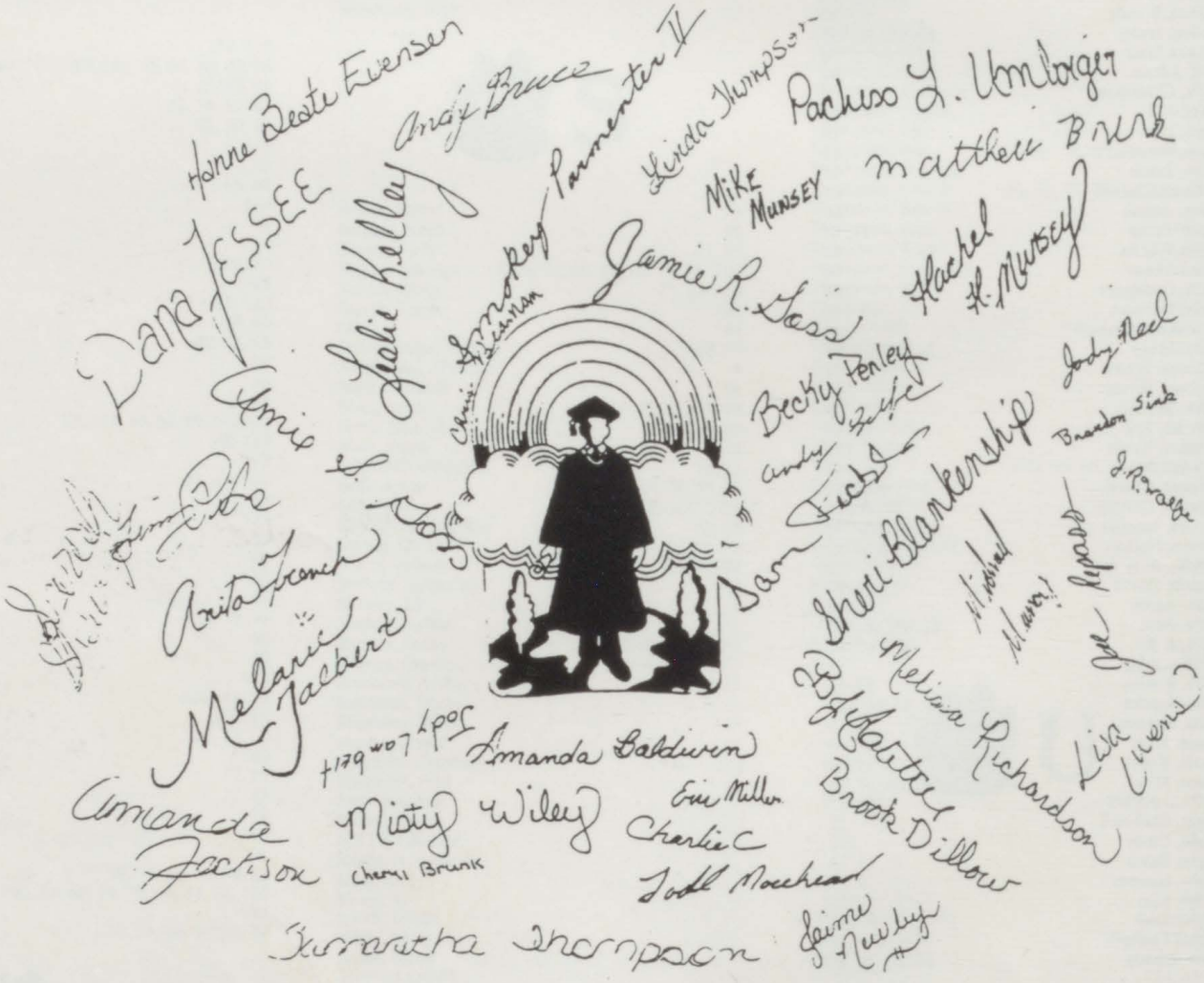
Y

YEARBOOK 58

Footprints in the sands of time paved the way for the future

Our images were reflected through the many mirrors of our school days and years. From the numerous pathways we trod, we left our footprints in the sands of time, paving the way toward new methods in education and other areas of life. Our happy laughter and shouted banter echoed in the hallowed halls of Bland Elementary and Bland High Schools. Our encouragement rang from the rafters of the gymnasium and over the open fields as we sought victories for our teams. Our accomplishments in academics and extra-curricular activities will remain a part of our lives as well as a legacy to our alma mater. We leave behind our childish and youthful dreams as we begin a new journey into the realms of adulthood. No longer children's footprints dependent upon parents and teachers, no longer teenage self-determination, our lives now take on new responsibility as we step forward to independence and maturity.

The Senior Class of 1996



COLOPHON: The Echo 1996 was printed and published by Taylor Publishing Company of Dallas, TX, at a cost in excess of $15,000. It was designed by students entirely on IBM compatible computers with ULTRAVISION, a program developed exclusively for Taylor Publishing patrons. It was printed on 20 lb. gloss paper, 7 3/4 x 10 1/2 inches in size, and used typefaces of Freehand Script, Times Roman Italic, Eric, and Weidemann. The cover used an overlay of Fractal material and was designed by the yearbook staff members. The cost of each yearbook was $30-$36 to the purchaser.

The yearbook representative was Richard Elliott of Knoxville, TN. Photographers were from LifeTouch of Roanoke and School Pictures of Bristol. Staff members were responsible for most of the candid pictures.

The staff consisted of eight members from grades 10-12 and two faculty advisers.



AUTOGRAPHS

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